

Below please find a written statement from **Conservation International**, which is listed within Annex E, regarding the seventh meeting of the International Negotiating Body.

We welcome important inclusions in the Negotiating Text of the **One Health approach** and **language supporting and detailing the prevention of zoonotic spillover** (a form of primary pandemic prevention), particularly in articles 1, 4, and 5. Most notably, in contrast to the previous WHO CA+ bureau text (which had options to exclude the majority of Article 4 [Prevention] and the entirety of Article 5 [One Health]), we applaud the Parties for taking a holistic and equitable approach to pandemics by including Articles 4 and 5 in the current Negotiating Text.

While we support the inclusion of “*drivers of pandemics*” in Articles 5 (One Health) and 18 (Communication), and “*spill-over*” and “*spill-back*” in the preamble and Articles 4 (Prevention) and 20 (Financing), it is imperative that the WHO CA+ goes beyond this phrasing. **Language recognizing (i) zoonotic spillover as a driver of pandemics and (ii) actions to reduce spillover risk warrant detailed and comprehensive provisions** on the same level as those proposed for secondary pandemic prevention (actions taken to reduce the risk of an outbreak from spreading and developing into an epidemic or pandemic), preparedness, and response. Such provisions should explicitly state the known drivers of infectious disease emergence including land use change (particularly deforestation), commercial wildlife trade and markets, weak animal health systems and management, and climate change. Spillover prevention is evidence-based and is critical for achieving health equity; without primary prevention, we are accepting the illness and deaths of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in spillover-prone areas, and the underprivileged in general who are almost always the last to benefit from vaccines, therapeutics and other reactive interventions.

More broadly, we support language in the Negotiating Text on the **protection of communities at human-animal-environmental interfaces**, the **fundamental role of primary healthcare**, and **equity principles that safeguard vulnerable communities, especially Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities**, from future zoonotic outbreaks, epidemics, and pandemics.

More detailed feedback on the latest draft can be found in this statement here:

https://www.preventingfuturepandemics.org/files/ugd/b89826_bd920b648e3a4ffd85cf1c5cb1467d90.pdf

We recognize the immense challenges of drafting the WHO CA+ and commend the Parties for their continued efforts to arrive at meaningful consensus by May 2024. Provisions on financing, access and benefit-sharing, and international collaboration and coordination must be satisfactory to all, but particularly to countries in the Global South who, during COVID-19, received inequitable access to vaccines, personal protective equipment and therapeutics compared to their counterparts in the Global North. We call on the Global North to commit and provide additional financing and support – needed by countries in the Global South to sufficiently deliver on primary pandemic prevention and One Health interventions in high spillover risk areas, and needed globally to protect everyone everywhere from future pandemics.