

Note for the record

Meeting of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (INB) 2 February 2023

Participants

Bureau members

African Region – Ms Precious Matsoso (South Africa)
Region of the Americas – Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes (Brazil)
South-East Asia Region – Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien (Thailand)
European Region – Mr Roland Driece (Netherlands)
Eastern Mediterranean Region – Mr Ahmed Salama Soliman (Egypt)
Western Pacific Region – Mr Kazuho Taguchi (Japan)

Secretariat

Dr Jaouad Mahjour, Assistant Director General, Emergency Preparedness
Ms Anne Huvos, Unit Head, Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
Dr Olla Shideed, Executive Officer, Emergency Preparedness
Mr Steven Solomon, Principal Legal Officer
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer
Mrs Paidamoyo Takaenzana, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Ms Violaine Messenger, External Relations Officer, Protocol Unit
Ms Julia Keyworth, Technical Officer, Protocol Unit
Ms Marta Seoane Aguiló, Team Lead, External Relations, Department of Communications
Ms Marcia Poole, Director, News, Emergencies and Crises, Department of Communications
Mr Gregory Hartl, Senior Communication Officer, Department of Communications
Mr Tarik Jašarević, Communications Officer, Department of Communications
Mr Paul Garwood, Unit Head, Department of Communications

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

- Bureau members agreed to the provisional agenda for the fourth meeting of the INB (INB4) as proposed by the Secretariat.
- Bureau members then discussed and provided feedback on the Bureau's note, prepared by the Secretariat, which outlined a proposal for modalities for INB4 and the fifth meeting of the INB (INB5). It was agreed that the note would be revised by the Secretariat in line with feedback provided by Bureau members and circulated to Member States prior to the informal Member State briefing on 7 February 2023.
- Bureau members agreed that Member States would also be invited to attend the informal briefing for relevant stakeholders on 15 February 2023. This will enable Member States to hear feedback from stakeholders on the zero draft to inform their considerations during INB4 and INB5.
- In preparation for the upcoming meetings of the INB, Bureau members asked the Secretariat to propose chairing arrangements and the division of labour among Bureau members during INB4 and INB5. This will be considered by the Bureau at a future meeting.

- The Bureau also asked the Secretariat to develop some guidance materials for Member States explaining the common drafting practices within WHO, to assist Member States in preparing for negotiations on the zero draft during INB4 and INB5.
- The Department of Communications provided an update on media monitoring undertaken since the publication of the zero draft and discussed communications activities relating to the upcoming work of the INB.
 - The Department reported that media monitoring has indicated a mostly positive initial response from stakeholders to the zero draft. The Department will continue media monitoring activities, particularly following the two informal briefing sessions on 7 and 15 February 2023, and provide another update to the Bureau at a future meeting.
 - The Department noted it will continue to work with the Bureau and Member States to consider additional communications activities that may be undertaken and to ensure consistency of communication on the INB and related processes, such as the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005).
- Bureau members asked the Secretariat to develop some Q and As to respond to questions regarding the zero draft, modalities and the upcoming INB meetings. The Bureau will review the draft Q and As before they proceed for publishing on the WHO website.
- The Secretariat confirmed that interpretation had been arranged for the informal briefing sessions on 7 and 15 February 2023.
- The Secretariat also advised that the translated versions of the zero draft were on track to be finalized by 10 February 2023.

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