

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) 6 June 2023

Participants

Bureau members

African Region – Ms Precious Matsoso (South Africa)
Region of the Americas – Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes (Brazil)
European Region – Mr Roland Driec (Kingdom of the 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
Dr Olla Shideed, Executive Officer, Emergency Preparedness
Ms Anne Huvos, Unit Head, Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
Mr Steven Solomon, Principal Legal Officer
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer
Mr Tim Armstrong, Director, Governing Bodies
Ms Guangyuan Liu, External Relations Officer, Director's Office, Governing Bodies
Ms Julia Keyworth, Technical Officer, Protocol Unit

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

- Bureau members discussed the proposed modalities for the upcoming resumed fifth meeting of the INB and drafting group, to be held from 12–16 June 2023.
 - Bureau members agreed that the meeting would open with a plenary session on 12 June 2023. The plenary would be open to relevant stakeholders. During the session, INB members and relevant stakeholders would be invited to provide general comments on the Bureau's text of the WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. The INB would consider the Bureau's text to be a basis for future work.
 - Following the opening plenary session, the meeting would shift to the meeting of the drafting group. The drafting group would be invited to reflect on and consider the Bureau's text, commencing from Chapter II and proceeding article by article, noting that:
 - for articles and/or issues deemed to require additional reflection beyond the meeting, the Bureau might propose that they were discussed further in informal intersessional meetings, to be facilitated by interested Member States;
 - Member States would be invited to focus on ensuring that relevant ideas or concepts were adequately addressed in the Bureau's text, rather than suggesting detailed revisions of wording.

- The Secretariat agreed to revise the email outlining the meeting modalities based on the discussions by the Bureau. The revised text would be shared with Bureau members for their review before it was sent to INB members.
- Following requests from Member States, Bureau members agreed that the slides from the Member State briefing held by the INB Bureau on 5 June 2023 would be shared with Member States and relevant stakeholders, as an attachment to the revised modalities email.
- With regard to intersessional work to be led by Member States, Bureau members discussed that such work would be supplementary to formal INB meetings and drafting group sessions, intended to help progress discussions more efficiently during formal meetings. The outcome of any intersessional informal meetings held prior to the sixth meeting of the INB (INB6) in July 2023 would be taken to INB6 for formal consideration.
- Bureau members considered strategies to increase communication with relevant stakeholders, agreeing that additional briefings and/or written communications with relevant stakeholders could be considered in the future.
- Bureau members discussed the participation of colleagues from the Department of Communications of the WHO Secretariat in INB Bureau meetings, agreeing that they would continue to be invited as needed, with arrangements to be revisited in the future as appropriate.

= = =