

## **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) 7 June 2022**

#### **Participants**

##### **Bureau members**

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

##### **Secretariat**

Dr Jaouad Mahjour, Assistant Director-General, Emergency Preparedness  
Ms Anne Huvos, Unit Head, Pandemic Influenza Preparedness  
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer  
Dr Olla Shideed, Executive Officer, Emergency Preparedness  
Mr Steven Solomon, Principal Legal Officer  
Mrs Paidamoyo Takaenzana, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit

#### **SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS**

- As requested by the INB and the Bureau, the Secretariat prepared a preliminary version of a white paper containing a draft annotated outline of a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. The Secretariat sought further guidance from the Bureau on the white paper such that it could be refined and presented to the INB at the ongoing second resumed session of the first meeting of the INB (6–8 June 2022).
- The Secretariat explained how the outline of the white paper compared to other important international instruments under various articles of the WHO Constitution. The Secretariat clarified that Member States could arrange their agreements according to the WHO Constitution as they deemed appropriate and across a spectrum of binding or non-binding arrangements. The Secretariat further specified that the outline derived from the substantive elements that were distilled and grouped into five main categories, as suggested by some Member States during the first day of the meeting.
- The Bureau expressed its appreciation to the Secretariat for preparing the white paper under a very tight deadline during the ongoing meeting. The Bureau discussed the document and provided feedback, suggesting additional ways to incorporate ideas put forth by some Member States in the document.
- As a way forward, the Bureau requested the Secretariat to revise the document with a view of circulating it to the Member States overnight. The INB would then be invited to provide its preliminary comments on the structure and substance of the white paper on 8 June 2022 under agenda item 4 of the second resumed session. In addition, the INB would be provided further opportunity to discuss the white paper during a continuation of the second resumed session to be held from 15 to 17 June 2022.

- Furthermore, the Bureau agreed to invite Member States to provide their written comments on the white paper with a deadline of Friday 24 June 2022. The written comments would allow the Bureau to review the draft annotated outline during the week of 27 June to 1 July 2022 and develop a working draft ahead of the second meeting of the INB in July.
- Finally, noting the rising disinformation and misinformation about the pandemic instrument process circulating among the public, the Bureau requested that the WHO Secretariat consider a communication response strategy to counter the spread of false information.

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