

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 July 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 (the 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
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
Mrs Mouna Mcharek, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

- The Bureau members continued their discussions on the preparations for the second meeting of the INB, scheduled to be held from 18 to 22 July 2022, as well as possible intersessional work leading up to the third meeting of the INB in December 2022.

1. Regional consultations

- The Bureau members from the Region of the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean Region and the European Region shared an update on consultations held with their respective regions in relation to the progress of the INB process and provided an overview of Member State expectations on the way forward and on some major topics, as well as a projection of some possible outcomes of the second meeting of the INB. The Secretariat and the INB Co-Chair also shared feedback from their participation in the Eastern Mediterranean Region consultations. It was noted that other regions were set to hold consultations at a later date and that the respective Bureau members would share the outcomes of the consultations as appropriate.
- In addition, the Bureau noted the update concerning the schedule of proposed briefings to be given by the INB Co-Chairs at the upcoming regional committee meetings.

2. Proceedings of the second meeting of the INB

- The members of the Bureau explored possible scenarios relating to the conduct and proceedings of the second meeting of the INB as well as the expected outcomes of the meeting and the possible leadership role of the Bureau in steering the discussions and ensuring inclusiveness.

- The Bureau noted the valuable contribution of the background information document on the identification of the provision of the WHO Constitution under which the instrument should be adopted, as well as the presentation provided by the Secretariat on the related legal and constitutional matters, in respect of steering the expected debate.
- The Bureau also thanked the Secretariat for its additional presentations and explanations to the Bureau and requested that all the information presented be provided in a draft white paper in advance of the second meeting of the INB, for the purposes of briefing Member States prior to that meeting.
- The Bureau members further discussed the programme of work of the second meeting of the INB and the most productive options in terms of allocating and organizing the available time between the two substantive items on the agenda of the meeting, with due consideration to the deliverables of the meeting as agreed during the second special session of the World Health Assembly.

3. Intersessional process until the third meeting of the INB

- The Bureau agreed on the need to articulate a clear intersessional process in preparation for the third meeting of the INB. It was noted that the process might include possible subgroups as well as written input from Member States. The Bureau recognized the need to take into account other ongoing intergovernmental processes and requested the Secretariat to provide suggestions on how to guide the intersessional work.

4. Communication strategy to counter misinformation and disinformation on the pandemic instrument process

- The Bureau invited the Secretariat to provide regular updates on emerging issues that required the Bureau's attention in relation to the matter of countering misinformation and disinformation.

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