

Note for the record

Joint 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), and the Bureau of the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WGIHR) 13 February 2023

Participants

INB Bureau members

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

WGIHR Bureau members

African Region – Dr Sultani Matendechemo (Kenya)
Region of the Americas – Mr Colin McIff (United States of America)
South-East Asia Region – Ambassador Grata Endah Werdaningtyas (Indonesia)
European Region – Ambassador François Rivasseau (France)
Eastern Mediterranean Region – Dr Abdullah Asiri (Saudi Arabia)
Western Pacific Region – Dr Ashley Bloomfield (New Zealand)

Secretariat

Dr Jaouad Mahjour, Assistant Director-General, Emergency Preparedness
Dr Olla Shideed, Executive Officer, Emergency Preparedness
Ms Anne Huvos, Unit Head, Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
Dr Carmen Dolea, Unit Head, IHR Secretariat
Mr Steven Solomon, Principal Legal Officer
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer
Dr Claudia Nannini, Legal Officer
Mrs Paidamoyo Takaenzana, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Mr Andrea Nannipieri, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Ms Roberta Andraghetti, Technical Officer, IHR Secretariat
Ms Julia Keyworth, Technical Officer, Protocol Unit

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

- Members of the INB and WGIHR Bureaus discussed the progress of their respective processes and potential interactions with regard to the work of the two groups.
- Bureau members noted that the INB and WGIHR processes were distinct and had separate mandates, and acknowledged that many Member States continued to request that the two processes should highlight areas of convergence and that the two Bureaus work in a complementary manner, as far as possible. In that regard, Bureau members considered opportunities for potential joint work between the two processes at the current stage, including:
 - coordination in proposing consistent modalities for the INB and WGIHR, where possible.

- alignment of meeting schedules and workplans, where possible; and
- regular and effective communication between the two Bureaus.
- Bureau members reiterated that decision-making on both the INB and WGIHR processes remained a matter for Member States, and discussed potential ways in which the Bureaus and the Secretariat could facilitate and support Member States to effectively move both processes forward.
- Members of both Bureaus agreed to reconvene once the WGIHR had commenced more substantive discussions on the modalities, scope and processes of their work during the second meeting of the WGIHR (WGIHR2). At that point, the Bureaus could further consider the potential interactions and areas of convergence between the two processes, as guided by Member States during WGIHR2 and the fourth meeting of the INB.

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