

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) 14 September 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 (Kingdom of the Netherlands)
Eastern Mediterranean Region – Mr Ahmed Salama Soliman (Egypt)
Western Pacific Region – Ambassador Kozo Honsei (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
Mrs Paidamoyo Takaenzana, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Ms Julia Keyworth, Technical Officer, Protocol Unit

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

- Bureau members discussed plans for the resumed session of the INB drafting group taking place on 22 September 2023. It was agreed that the co-facilitators of the drafting group's informal consultations would be given the opportunity to report back on those consultations during the meeting. The Bureau Co-Chairs would continue to work with the Secretariat to prepare for the meeting, including by engaging with the co-facilitators as needed.
- Bureau members discussed the approach for developing a negotiating text of the WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (WHO CA+), to be considered by the INB at its seventh meeting in November 2023 (INB7). As agreed at the drafting group meeting held from 4 to 6 September 2023, the proposed negotiating text would be based on the discussions of the INB at its fourth, fifth and sixth meetings, which had been held in February and March, April, and June 2023, respectively, as well as meetings of the drafting group, including its informal consultations, and the reports of the co-facilitators of those consultations. The Bureau decided to hold a retreat to finalize the development of the text. Meanwhile, the Secretariat was invited to reach out to Bureau members to clarify any issues in advance. It was also noted that a briefing for the INB would be conducted on 26 October 2023 to present the proposed negotiating text and propose plans for INB7.
- Bureau members considered related ongoing work, including the briefing held with relevant stakeholders on the progress by the INB, the joint briefings for the INB and Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) and the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, as well as potential discussions about the INB on the sidelines of the regional committee meetings.

- Bureau members discussed the draft note on the structure of the WHO CA+. The Secretariat advised that the draft note would be revised based on the feedback received from the Bureau, with the revised version to be circulated among Bureau members for their review.

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