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) 15 August 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 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 Andrea Nannipieri, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Ms Julia Keyworth, Technical Officer, Protocol Unit

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

• Bureau members discussed the proposed approach for the upcoming meeting of the drafting group of the INB, scheduled to be held on 4–6 September 2023.
  
  − Bureau members agreed that a plenary session of the INB drafting group would be held on the first morning of the meeting, before the drafting group broke into informal discussions as set out in the report of the sixth meeting of the INB (INB6).

  − Bureau members agreed that time would be set aside on the final day of the meeting to allow the drafting group to discuss how to progress the draft text of the WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (WHO CA+) prior to the next INB meeting in November 2023, as per the decision of the INB as reflected in the report of INB6. Bureau members noted that Member States might also choose to commence discussions about the form of the WHO CA+ at that time.

• Bureau members discussed preparations for a number of stakeholder meetings regarding the INB.

• The Secretariat provided an update on negotiations regarding the zero draft of the political declaration of the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response.

• Bureau members requested that the Secretariat prepare a draft update on the INB process for WHO Regional Directors, for review by Bureau members before it was circulated.

• Bureau members requested that the Secretariat provide a schedule of the upcoming meetings on the INB being organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, to assist Bureau members in planning their attendance.