

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) 20 May 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

Ms Anne Huvos, Unit Head, Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
Dr Claudia Nannini, Legal Officer
Dr Munjoo Park, Technical Officer, DGO
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer
Dr Carmen Savelli, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Dr Olla Shideed, Executive Officer, Emergency Preparedness
Mr Steven Solomon, Principal Legal Officer

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

1. Draft consolidated outline document of substantive elements

- The Bureau discussed possible options to articulate the draft consolidated outline document of substantive elements, based on the inputs from the Member States through the questionnaire and the open-ended submissions.
- Various approaches for the format of the paper were outlined and discussed, including either keeping the same format used to collect inputs (i.e. four strategic pillars with five categories) or reorganizing in another way. The discussion considered the technical areas related to pandemic prevention, preparedness, response and recovery (PPRR) and the work of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies (WGPR) as a basis and inspiration for matters related to governance, equity, systems and tools and finance.
- The Bureau agreed on a format for the document that would be flexible in allowing for subcategories at a later stage that remained in line with the INB mandate, based on PPRR.

2. Establishment of subgroups

- The Bureau expressed its views on the establishment of subgroups and some of the related aspects such as terms of reference, composition, chairing and resource implications. It discussed how many subgroups to propose, and discussed holding subgroup meetings consecutively or simultaneously and how to facilitate Member State engagement and participation. In that regard, the Bureau agreed to propose a corresponding structure based on the categories of PPRR and to group those categories into two subgroups to facilitate maximum participation by the Member States. In addition, the Bureau agreed to allow for further discussions on the establishment of subgroups at its next meeting.

3. Presentation of preliminary analysis of the platform

- The Secretariat provided a preliminary analysis of the submissions by the Member States, received to date through the digital platform. The Secretariat sought guidance from the Bureau on further analysis requirements.
- In appreciating the briefing, the Bureau highlighted the need to maintain the descriptive nature of the analysis and agreed to discuss the guidance to be provided to the Secretariat at its next meeting.

4. Next meeting of the Bureau

- The Bureau discussed possible dates to hold its next meeting, which would be dedicated to finalizing the consideration of the draft documents for the next session of the INB. The Bureau agreed to meet on 26 May 2022 on the margins of the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly, in order to allow for timely circulation of relevant documents to Member States ahead of the June session of the INB.

= = =