

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 September 2022

Participants

Bureau members

African Region – Ms Precious Matsoso (South Africa)

European Region – Mr Roland Driece (Netherlands)

Eastern Mediterranean Region – Mr Ahmed Salama Soliman (Egypt)

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

Other

Ms Emma Ross, Senior Research Fellow, Global Health Programme, Centre on Global Health Security, Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, London

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

The Bureau held a coordination meeting with Ms Emma Ross, Senior Research Fellow at Chatham House, who had been selected as the Moderator for the four sessions of the informal focused consultations (IFCs) to be conducted by the INB Bureau in September and October 2022.

- The Moderator provided an outline of the progress in her coordination with the Secretariat to finalize the format of the informal, focused consultations, reaffirming that the sessions will be framed in line with the format set out in the White Paper shared with Member States and as per the concept note of each informal, focused consultation.
- The Bureau members expressed their appreciation to the Moderator for agreeing to facilitate the informal focused consultations. They discussed in detail the proposed modalities for the conduct of the discussions during the consultations, including: the guiding questions to each of the experts in order to keep their input and the scope of the discussions relevant to the work of the INB broadly and in advancing the update of the working draft; the sequencing of the discussions; and the handling of questions from both Member States and relevant stakeholders in line with the principles of geographical and gender balance and diversity.
- In that context, and ahead of the first informal, focused consultation on legal matters scheduled to be held on 21 September 2022, the Bureau addressed the proposed focus areas assigned to each panellist. Bureau members also highlighted the need for proper time management, encouraging direct questions from the floor and reminding participants that the purpose of the informal, focused consultations was to stimulate interaction between Member States, relevant stakeholders and the invited experts, rather than providing country positions.

- In addition, the Bureau provided guidance to the Moderator in order to maintain the discussions within the scope of the work of the INB and thematic areas of interest in relation to legal matters, and requested her to conduct pre-meetings with the experts in preparation for each session of the informal, focused consultations.
- Furthermore, the Bureau agreed on the structure of their participation in the informal, focused consultations, in terms of the opening and closing summaries, as well as reflections to be provided by the Co-Chairs.

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