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) 22 February 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 (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
Mrs Paidamoyo Takaenzana, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Ms Julia Keyworth, Technical Officer, Protocol Unit

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

• The Bureau discussed the proposed modalities and approach for the upcoming fourth meeting of the INB (INB4). In this regard, Bureau members decided that, subject to agreement by Member States:
  – agenda Item 2 would be open to relevant stakeholders to observe the discussion;
  – textual amendments proposed during drafting sessions would be attributed in the drafting text to the Member State making the proposal, but the drafting text with Member State attributions would not be published online, in line with the proposed modalities in A/INB/4/4; and
  – written inputs from relevant stakeholders on the zero draft may be accepted and would be published online to be considered by Member States – the Secretariat agreed to draft a chapeau text to accompany the written inputs posted online, to be considered by the Bureau.

• Bureau members agreed to the proposal put forward by the Bureau co-chairs regarding sharing INB4 chairing responsibilities among Bureau members.

• Bureau members requested the Secretariat to arrange a number of briefings for the Bureau, including with:
  – UNICEF, the World Food Programme (WFP) and other relevant United Nations agencies (as appropriate) on relevant supply chain and logistics matters;
  – the PIP Framework Secretariat on relevant access and benefit sharing matters;
– WIPO and WTO on relevant intellectual property matters;
– members of the Quadripartite on relevant One Health and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) matters.

• The Bureau noted that further briefings on those topics to the full INB and/or a joint meeting of the INB and the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WGIHR) could be considered in the future, if requested by Member States.

• Bureau members provided input and guidance on the draft INB newsletter, which was expected to be distributed the following week.

• The Secretariat confirmed that, as requested by Bureau members, it was working to produce guidance on standard WHO drafting practices for Member States.