

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 November 2022

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 Driecé (the 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
Ms Marta Seoane Aguilo, Team Lead, Department of Communications
Mrs Paidamoyo Takaenzana, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Mrs Mouna Mcharek, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Ms Violaine Messenger, External Relations Officer, Protocol Unit

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

1. Reflections on the INB briefing on 18 November 2022

- The Bureau members shared their reflections following the briefing of Member States on the conceptual zero draft on 18 November 2022. They recalled that the purpose of the briefing, as conveyed in advance to Member States, was to introduce the conceptual zero draft and methodology on its development in preparation for the third meeting of the INB (INB3), and noted the helpful feedback received from Member States.
- In addition, and reacting to some Member States' request for guidance on possible submission of additional comments in the context of the development of the zero draft, the Bureau members agreed that any further written or verbal submission was to be provided during the course of INB3.

2. Draft scenario for INB3

- The Bureau members discussed and provided guidance to the Secretariat on the proposed draft scenario for transition from the conceptual zero draft to the zero draft in preparation for INB3. It was requested that the scenario should clearly reflect the expected outcomes of INB3 and the way forward to the fourth meeting of the INB (INB4) in terms of transition from the conceptual zero draft to the zero draft. The Bureau further requested the Secretariat to provide examples to Member States during INB3 of how this transition could work, including through a legal rationale, taking into account other processes, such as the International Health

Regulations (2005), the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control or the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework.

- In addition, the Bureau requested the Secretariat to clearly reflect the meeting documents that were provided solely for the information of INB3 and whose input contributed to the development of the conceptual zero draft, such as the regional committee discussions, the informal, focused consultations and the second round of public hearings.
- The Bureau considered the background information paper proposed by the Secretariat on certain legal and governance considerations and requested that this document be renamed as such and be further revised to make it more balanced and submitted to INB3. It was also noted that the paper could be updated as necessary in preparation for INB4.
- Recalling its previous email exchanges, discussions and guidance to the Secretariat on the draft document entitled “Proposal by the Bureau on an updated timeline and deliverables, development of the zero draft of the WHO CA+, and establishment of drafting group modalities”, the Bureau requested that the final edited version of the paper be cleared by the Bureau before being shared with Member States.
- In addition, the Bureau discussed the modalities of webcasting INB3 and agreed, in line with previous practice and to continue promoting transparency, to propose publicly webcasting all sessions of INB3, unless otherwise decided by the INB.
- Finally, the Bureau members invited the Secretariat to reflect in the draft scenario for the conduct of INB3 the coordination with the Bureau of the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) and the role of Secretariat.

3. Suggested email from the INB Bureau on practical aspects related to INB3

- The Bureau discussed and agreed to the proposed communication on the practical arrangements related to INB3, to be shared by email with Member States and relevant stakeholders in advance of INB3.

4. Communications package

- The Bureau members expressed their appreciation to the Secretariat for preparing the communications materials for their consideration as per their previous request and decided to consider this at their next meeting. In addition, they requested the Secretariat to continue monitoring and tracking the misinformation spread among the public on the work of the INB and to continue to appropriately update the WHO website.
- The Secretariat further sought the guidance of the Bureau to refine the external engagement plan and narratives, as well as the newsletter to be disseminated, and to reflect the developments in the work of the INB.

5. Consideration of Annex E proposals

- Based on an update provided by the Secretariat on new proposals for inclusion in the list of entities under Annex E of Modalities of engagement for relevant stakeholders, the Bureau discussed the proposals submitted by two Member States and requested the Secretariat to seek clarification on the details of one of the suggestions before the proposals could be shared with Member States for consideration.

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