

## **Note for the Record**

### **Meeting of the nominated members 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) 23 February 2022**

#### **Participants**

##### **Nominated members of the Bureau**

AFR – Ms Precious Matsoso (South Africa)  
AMR – Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes (Brazil)  
EMR – Mr Ahmed Salama Soliman (Egypt)  
EUR – Mr Roland Driec (the Netherlands)  
SEAR – Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien (Thailand)  
WPR – Mr Kazuho Taguchi (Japan)

##### **Secretariat**

Ms Jane Ellison, Executive Director, Governance and External Relations  
Dr Jaouad Mahjour, Assistant Director General, Emergency Preparedness  
Dr Timothy Armstrong, Director Governing Bodies  
Mr Steven Solomon, Principal Legal Officer  
Ms Gina Vea, Unit Head, Governance Unit  
Dr Olla Shideed, Executive Officer, Emergency Preparedness  
Mrs Paidamoyo Takaenzana, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit  
Dr Claudia Nannini, Legal Officer  
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer  
Dr Carmen Savelli, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit

#### **SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSIONS**

(1) Having agreed to the Notes for the Record from its last two meetings, as amended, the Bureau-elect focused its attention on the preparation for the first meeting of the INB.

##### **(2) Run-down of INB1**

- The Bureau-elect agreed that the first meeting was expected to adopt the methods of work as well as the preliminary timelines and deliverables.
- The timelines would have to be updated to include concrete dates, possibly three meetings of the INB in 2022 and four meetings in 2023, as well as intercessional work and regional conversations. A process for the collection of substantive elements would have to be outlined for the resumed session of the INB in March 2022.
- Many questions were anticipated regarding the resumed session of the INB. The Bureau-elect agreed to work collectively to propose a clear process on the work of the INB up to the second meeting in July. The work of the INB should be in accordance with decision SSA2(5) (2021) of the Special session of the Assembly. The need to avoid duplication with other work processes and ensure an inclusive, transparent and consensual approach was highlighted and the Bureau-elect agreed to synchronize meetings with those of the WGPR Bureau and the IHR amendments, as well as holding a possible joint meeting with the WGPR Bureau. The Bureau-elect agreed to take advantage of regional platforms including regional committees, as well as to use some agreed papers for the WGPR as a basis for the work of the INB.

(3) **Preparations for the resumed session of the first meeting of the INB (14 and 15 March 2022)**

- **Background**

- The Secretariat made a presentation on the three normative tools under the WHO Constitution, which could be used for the instrument, namely either under article 19 (such as FCTC), or Article 21 (such as IHR 2005), or thirdly under Article 23 which is not legally binding (such as recommendations).

- **Modalities for the collection of substantive elements**

- The Bureau-elect agreed to propose multiple approaches for the collection of substantive elements, which could include both written inputs as well as a questionnaire or survey, perhaps through an on-line tool. Sufficient time should be provided for Member States to provide their inputs.

- **High level modalities for public hearings**

- The Secretariat will prepare a paper on the modalities and general timeline for public hearings in line with the Director-General's mandate.

- **Modalities for the participation of NSAs (and other entities) in the INB**

- The Bureau agreed that co-chairs will take the floor during INB1 and propose, for the resumed session of INB1, to follow the approach set forth in the WGPR for the participation of other stakeholders in the meetings of the INB. Bureau-elect members were requested to provide their suggestions on stakeholders that could be included for the INB as was done for the WGPR under Annex D of document WGPR/1/6.

(4) **AOB**

- The Bureau-elect agreed to the recommendation from the Secretariat in respect of the two footnotes appearing at the end of paragraph 17 of the version of the Proposed method of work issued on 21 February 2022. The recommendation involved repeating the two footnotes in paragraphs 21 and 25 (e) of that document<sup>1</sup> – in each case following the term “Member States”. Consistent with relevant governing body decisions and well-established practice in WHO, these footnotes allow for the involvement of Associate Members and regional economic integration organizations in our work, as appropriate.
- The Bureau also agreed to propose to add the phrase “unless otherwise agreed by the INB” at the end of paragraph 21. This paragraph would therefore read as follows: “Participation in drafting groups will be limited to Member States, unless otherwise agreed by the INB.”. This addition would serve to ensure that the INB retains the necessary flexibility to invite other relevant stakeholders to its drafting groups, if so deemed appropriate.

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<sup>1</sup> In the revised version of the Proposed method of work, document A/INB/1/3 Rev.1, the paragraphs concerned are numbers 16, 20 and 24 (e).