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) 26 January 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
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer
Ms Julia Keyworth, Technical Officer, Protocol Unit

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

• The Secretariat presented a paper outlining a proposed approach for the upcoming fourth and fifth meetings of the INB. Bureau members discussed the proposed approach and provided feedback on the paper, which the Secretariat agreed to revise in line with the feedback received, including:
  – Moving the sections covering interactions with the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) to a separate paper, to be considered separately.
  – Making the paper more concise and focused on the procedural matters being considered, avoiding use of literature and other detailed references.

• Bureau members discussed the upcoming informal Member State briefing, currently scheduled for 15 February 2023. The briefing is expected to provide Member States with an update on the zero draft and discuss the proposed approach for the upcoming INB meetings with Member States.
  – Following a request by Bureau members, the Secretariat agreed to look into whether this briefing could be brought forward. The Secretariat will advise the Bureau on this matter.

• Bureau members also agreed that:
  – The upcoming INB meetings will continue to be conducted in a hybrid format.
  – The Secretariat will prepare a document outlining proposed roles and responsibilities for the upcoming INB meetings, to be discussed by Bureau members at a future INB Bureau meeting.