

## **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) 29 September 2022**

#### **Participants**

##### **Bureau members**

African Region – Ms Precious Matsoso (South Africa)  
Eastern Mediterranean Region – Mr Ahmed Salama Soliman (Egypt)  
European Region – Mr Roland Driece (Netherlands)  
South-East Asia Region – Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien (Thailand)  
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 Hitesh Chugh, Technical Officer, Pandemic Influenza Preparedness  
Mr Paul Garwood, Unit Head, Department of Communications  
Mr Steven Solomon, Principal Legal Officer  
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer  
Mrs Paidamoyo Takaenzana, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit  
Mrs Mouna Mcharek, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit

#### **SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS**

##### **1. Update on the preparations for the informal, focused consultations (IFCs)**

- The Secretariat provided an overview of the ongoing preparations for the second and third informal, focused consultations scheduled to be held respectively on: operationalizing and achieving equity (5 October 2022); and intellectual property and access to pandemic response products (7 October 2022). The overview included updates on the confirmation of potential experts, as well as on the proposed conduct of the discussions, with a view to enhancing the interactions of Member States with the experts as requested by the Bureau.
- The Bureau members discussed and agreed further proposals to extend the list of invited panelists to the IFCs to include experts from civil society in order to bring another perspective, and additional benefit, from their areas of expertise relevant to the work of the INB.

##### **2. Update on public hearings**

- The Secretariat provided an update on the preparations for, and the proceedings of, the ongoing second round of public hearings (29–30 September 2022), including a breakdown by language, region and gender of the video statements submitted.
- The Secretariat also provided information on the preparation and submission of the videos to be broadcast during the public hearings. The Bureau emphasized the need for transparency and diversity in the submission and selection of the videos, and it was understood that no screening or filtering would be applied by the Secretariat except to ensure that all submissions followed the posted terms of participation (addressing requirements of propriety, appropriateness and decorum). The Secretariat confirmed that all videos received that were

consistent with the terms of participation would be uploaded to the website (inb.who.int) and that if any additional round(s) of public hearings occurred, the Secretariat would update the terms of participation to expressly note that the promotion of commercial products and/or services was not permitted.

### **3. INB communications over the next period**

- Consistent with a previous request from the Bureau, the Secretariat provided a presentation on planned activities and awareness raising efforts to support the work of the Bureau and the INB over the coming months. The planned activities were in line with the upcoming milestones of the INB process, and some activities had been conducted ahead of the second round of public hearings. The Secretariat outlined the tools and materials prepared with the collaboration of partners, and shared through notable influencers, such as Nobel Prize winners, former Heads of State, youth groups and NGOs. In this context, the social media live session held recently with the INB co-chairs was highlighted, and for the future, it was proposed for consideration, to launch a regular INB Bureau newsletter. In addition, the Secretariat outlined its continuing efforts to monitor and counter misinformation and disinformation about the INB process.

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