

Note for the record

Joint 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), and the Bureau of the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WGIHR) 23 March 2023

Participants

INB Bureau members

African Region – Ms Precious Matsoso (South Africa)
Region of the Americas – Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes (Brazil)
Eastern Mediterranean Region – Mr Ahmed Salama Soliman (Egypt)
Western Pacific Region – Mr Kazuho Taguchi (Japan)

WGIHR Bureau members

African Region – Dr Sultani Matendechemo (Kenya)
Region of the Americas – Mr Colin McIff (United States of America)
South-East Asia Region – Ambassador Grata Endah Werdaningtyas (Indonesia)
European Region – Ambassador François Rivasseau (France)
Eastern Mediterranean Region – Dr Abdullah Asiri (Saudi Arabia)
Western Pacific Region – Dr Ashley Bloomfield (New Zealand)

Secretariat

Dr Olla Shideed, Executive Officer, Emergency Preparedness
Ms Anne Huvos, Unit Head, Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
Dr Carmen Dolea, Unit Head, IHR Secretariat
Mr Steven Solomon, Principal Legal Officer
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer
Dr Claudia Nannini, Legal Officer
Dr Bruce Aylward, Assistant Director-General, External Relations and Governance
Mrs Paidamoyo Takaenzana, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Mr Andrea Nannipieri, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Dr Roberta Andraghetti, Technical Officer, IHR Secretariat
Ms Julia Keyworth, Technical Officer, Protocol Unit
Ms Gabriella Stern, Director, Department of Communications
Mr Paul Garwood, Unit Head, Department of Communications
Mr Gregory Hartl, Senior Communication Officer, Department of Communications
Dr Faith McLellan, Senior Communication Officer, Department of Communications
Ms Nyka Alexander, Team Lead, Communications for Health Emergencies
Ms Aleksandra Kuzmanovic, Social Media Officer, Department of Communications
Dr Taraneh Shojaei, Technical Officer, Emergency Preparedness

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

Update on INB and WGIHR intersessional meetings

- INB Bureau members provided an update on the three informal INB briefing sessions that took place following the fourth meeting of the INB, noting the valuable input that was received from experts on a number of technical issues during the sessions.
- WGIHR Bureau members provided an update on the upcoming intersessional WGIHR meeting, which was being convened to informally discuss proposed amendments to Articles 53 and 54 of the IHR (2005).
- Members of both Bureaus provided feedback on recent regional meetings on the INB and WGIHR processes, noting how valuable these regional-level discussions had been so far.

Update on INB and WGIHR communication plans

- The two Bureaus and the Secretariat discussed communication activities and approaches relating to the INB and WGIHR processes, including the draft INB and WGIHR communication plans proposed by the Secretariat.
 - The Secretariat provided an update on the ongoing media monitoring that had been conducted in relation to the INB and WGIHR processes.
 - Bureau members discussed communication strategies to counter disinformation and misinformation on the INB and WGIHR processes and opportunities for communication activities to coincide with the upcoming fifth meeting of the INB (INB5) and third meeting of the WGIHR (WGIHR3). Bureau members agreed that there was value in Member States taking a prominent role in INB and WGIHR communication activities to reinforce that both were Member State-led processes.
- Members of both Bureaus would provide further feedback on the communication plans as appropriate and continue to work with the Secretariat regarding specific communication activities to be undertaken around INB5 and WGIHR3.

Next joint INB–WGIHR Bureau meeting

The two Bureaus agreed to schedule their next meeting following INB5 and WGIHR3.

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