

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) 28 June 2023

Participants

INB 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)
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 Jaouad Mahjour, Assistant Director-General, Emergency Preparedness
Ms Anne Huvos, Unit Head, Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
Dr Carmen Dolea, Unit Head, International Health Regulations Secretariat
Dr Roberta Andraghetti, Technical Officer, International Health Regulations Secretariat
Mr Steven Solomon, Principal Legal Officer
Mr Kenneth Piercy, Senior Legal Officer
Mr Andrea Nannipieri, External Relations Officer, Governance Unit
Ms Julia Keyworth, Technical Officer, Protocol Unit

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

- Members of the INB Bureau and the WGIHR Bureau discussed preparations for the upcoming joint plenary meeting of the INB and WGIHR, scheduled to take place on 21 and 24 July 2023. Bureau members provided input on the draft provisional agenda, draft document outlining the practical aspects relating to the conduct of the meeting and the list of topics of common interest to the INB and WGIHR.
 - Bureau members agreed that the document outlining the list of topics of common interest to the INB and WGIHR would be considered an informal working document for the purposes of discussion during the joint plenary meeting. Although informal documents were not usually translated for meetings organized by the Secretariat, it was agreed that that document would be translated as an exception for the joint plenary meeting.
 - Members of both Bureaus agreed that Member States would be invited to specifically discuss the definition of a “pandemic” and a “public health emergency of international concern” during the joint plenary meeting, with the Secretariat to provide a presentation on the matter to facilitate its consideration.

- The Secretariat agreed to revise the documents for the joint plenary meeting based on the input of Bureau members. The revised documents would be shared with Bureau members for their final review before they were prepared for publication. Bureau members also agreed that the comments received from four Member States on the list of topics of common interest would be shared with all Member States for their consideration.

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