

Report of the meeting

1. The second meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (INB) was held from 18–21 July 2022 in a hybrid format, under the leadership of Mr Roland Driee of the Netherlands and Ms Precious Matsoso of South Africa as Co-Chairs, with the following Vice-Chairs: Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes of Brazil, Mr Ahmed Soliman of Egypt, Mr Kazuho Taguchi of Japan and Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien of Thailand. The INB was publicly webcast for agenda items 1, 2, 5 and 6.
2. In his opening remarks delivered on behalf of the Director-General, Dr Michael Ryan, Executive Director, WHO Health Emergencies Programme, recalled the mandate of the INB and requested the Member States to reflect on how to collectively ensure better preparedness and more equitable response for the next pandemic. He stressed that this could only be done with a strong and binding commitment between nations to provide a solid foundation for enhanced cooperation with all sectors. He noted that it would be WHO Member States who would determine the purpose, scope and content of any such international agreement.
3. The INB expressed its appreciation to the Bureau for developing the working draft, presented on the basis of progress achieved, contained in document A/INB/2/3, as a good basis to facilitate the discussions. Member States provided comments and suggestions to improve the document and requested the Bureau to ensure complementarity and coherence between the work of the INB and the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005). In terms of the way forward regarding the working draft, the INB agreed to a process for intersessional work (see Annex), with a view to presenting a conceptual zero draft for the consideration of the INB at its third meeting, scheduled to be held from 5–7 December 2022. The Bureau committed to propose revisions to the Timeline and deliverables contained in document A/INB/1/6 Rev.1 for the consideration of the INB at its third meeting. INB members benefited from the contributions of relevant stakeholders.
4. Regarding the identification of the provision of the WHO Constitution under which the instrument should be adopted, the INB agreed that the instrument should be legally binding and contain both legally binding as well as non-legally binding elements. In that regard, the INB identified that Article 19 of the WHO Constitution is the comprehensive provision under which the instrument should be adopted, without prejudice to also considering, as work progresses, the suitability of Article 21. This identification is made mindful that the decision will be made by the World Health Assembly.
5. The INB approved the list of entities proposed by Member States for inclusion in Annex E of document A/INB/1/7 Rev.1, noting the importance of ensuring transparency, inclusivity, geographical representation and diversity among the proposed entities. The Secretariat was requested to cross-check the approved entities in Annex E to avoid repeating the entities already approved under Annexes A to D of document A/INB/1/7 Rev.1. The INB noted that document A/INB/1/7 Rev.1 would be revised as

agreed, and that it continued to be a living document with further possibilities for updates as deemed appropriate by the INB.

6. The Director-General addressed the INB, expressing appreciation for the work of the Bureau and the rich contributions of Member States as well as relevant stakeholders. He underscored the importance of the work of the INB to advancing the principles of equity, solidarity and health for all.

7. The INB considered and approved its report and the Co-Chairs closed the session.

ANNEX

INTERSESSIONAL PROCESS TO THE THIRD MEETING OF THE INB

22 July to 15 September 2022	<p>Provision of written input</p> <p>Member States and relevant stakeholders to provide written input on the working draft (document A/INB/2/3) by 15 September 2022.</p>
22 August to 28 October 2022	<p>Regional consultations</p> <p>Bureau to explain how the discussions in the regional committees will be handled and will consider the possibility of informal consultations with each individual region where necessary.</p>
29–30 September 2022	<p>Second round of public hearings</p> <p>Secretariat to hold the second round of public hearings, with details to be shared in due course.</p>
October 2022 (dates tbc)	<p>Informal, focused consultations</p> <p>Bureau to conduct informal, focused consultations on selected key issues, including with experts, as invited by the Bureau.</p> <p>Open to all Member States¹ and relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>A summary report from the informal focused consultations to be made available in advance of the third meeting of the INB.</p>
November 2022	<p>Bureau to develop the conceptual zero draft</p> <p>Bureau to consolidate comments from the second meeting of the INB, written inputs from Member States and relevant stakeholders, input from regional consultations, and the outcomes from public hearings and informal, focused consultations, and use them in its development of the conceptual zero draft.</p>
Mid-November 2022	<p>Bureau to send out conceptual zero draft, reflecting inputs provided from the regions, public hearings and other intersessional work.</p>
5–7 December 2022	<p>Third meeting of the INB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consideration of the conceptual zero draft. - Discussion of the way forward, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of the zero draft ▪ Establishment of drafting group modalities.

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¹ And Associate Members and regional economic integration organizations.