

SIXTH MEETING OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING BODY TO DRAFT AND NEGOTIATE A WHO CONVENTION, AGREEMENT OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT ON PANDEMIC PREVENTION, PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE Agenda item 6

A/INB/6/5 11 August 2023

## **Report of the meeting**

1. The sixth meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response was held from 17 to 21 July 2023 in a hybrid format, under the leadership of Ms Precious Matsoso of South Africa and Mr Roland Driece of the Netherlands 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.

2. In line with previous practice and the promotion of transparency in the work of the INB, agenda items 1 (Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda and programme of work), 2 (Briefings by the co-facilitators of the intersessional informal meetings of the drafting group in relation to Articles 9 (Research and development), 12 (Access and benefit-sharing) and 13 (Supply chain and logistics)), 6 (Report of the meeting) and 7 (Closure of the session) were publicly webcast, whilst items 3 (Consideration and negotiation of the WHO convention, agreement, or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (WHO CA+), Bureau's text of the WHO CA+), 4 (Proposals from Member States of entities to be included in Annex D and/or Annex E of document A/INB/5/4 [if any] ) and 5 (Next steps) were held in closed sessions.

3. Pursuant to the report of the resumed fifth meeting of the INB, informal meetings of the drafting group were held in the intersessional period between the fifth and sixth meetings of the INB. The co-facilitators of Articles 9 (Research and development) – Mexico and Norway, 12 (Access and benefit-sharing) – Australia and Ethiopia, and 13 (Supply chain and logistics) – Indonesia and Pakistan, provided briefings to the INB on the progress from the informal intersessional meetings. The meeting expressed its appreciation to the co-facilitators for their leadership and the informal meetings were viewed as having provided a valuable opportunity for Member States to exchange views and understand positions. Further informal meetings on the three aforementioned Articles were held on the sidelines of the sixth meeting of the INB.

4. The drafting group continued with its consideration of the Bureau's text of the WHO CA+ and completed the review of the text. With respect to next steps, the INB decided to continue with the informal meetings of the drafting group on Articles 9, 12 and 13. In addition, the drafting group decided that the following Articles should be discussed further in informal meetings:

- Article 4 (Pandemic prevention and public health surveillance) and Article 5 (Strengthening pandemic prevention and preparedness through a One Health approach) (jointly) to be co-facilitated by India, United Republic of Tanzania and the United Kingdom;
- Article 11 (Co-development and transfer of technology and know-how) to be co-facilitated by Colombia, the Philippines and Saudi Arabia.

5. The INB decided that the September 2023 meeting of the INB drafting group will include informal meetings on the aforementioned Articles. The co-facilitators are encouraged to work, as appropriate, to improve the text, with a view to identifying areas of divergence and facilitating convergence, and will be invited to report on progress during the September 2023 meeting of the INB drafting group, with the understanding that the informal meeting reports are without prejudice to the right of any Member State to present textual proposals and to the status of the compilation document. The September 2023 meeting of the INB drafting group will be invited to agree on the way forward in line with the mandate established by the Health Assembly in decision SSA2(5) (2021) that the INB shall submit its outcome for consideration by the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly. The INB expressed appreciation to the Secretariat and requested the Secretariat to continue to provide necessary arrangements to ensure meeting facilities throughout the process until adoption of the WHO CA+.

6. The meeting agreed to elect Ambassador Kozo Honsei of Japan as the INB Vice-Chair from the Western Pacific Region to replace Mr Kazuho Taguchi of Japan, whose term in Geneva was coming to an end, and expressed appreciation for the work of Mr Taguchi.

7. The INB agreed to two proposals from Member States for two additional relevant stakeholders to be included in Annex E of document A/INB/5/4 on the understanding that the document continues to be a living document.

8. The meeting considered and approved its report and the Co-Chairs closed the session.

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