

Pillar 2: One billion more better protected from health emergencies

Item 15: WHO's work in health emergencies

Singapore's Written Statement

Health emergencies demand rapid, coordinated action. Singapore appreciates and commends WHO's leadership during such crises over the past year.

2 Beyond response, there is an urgent need for Member States to strengthen their preparedness and readiness plans. The recent outbreaks of mpox and Avian Influenza (H5N1) have highlighted that anywhere in the world is potentially at risk.

3 Having adaptable pandemic preparedness plans, supported by a global health pandemic preparedness and response architecture that facilitates access to diagnostics, therapeutics, vaccines and resources, will put Member States in a better position to guard against and respond to outbreaks.

4 We encourage the WHO and Member States to continue to share best practices and exchange technical expertise for capacity building. WHO can further work with Member States to further strengthen national capacity in overall preparedness and readiness. The JEE process is one good mechanism where WHO works hand in hand with member states to review and revise plans to ensure that they are comprehensive, adaptable and ready to be implemented in times of crises.

5 The other important pillar, as it always is, is a robust surveillance system to allow for accurate detection of cases and rapid sharing of information. A timely exchange of information strengthens our collective capacity to respond rapidly to emerging outbreaks, even in regions with limited surveillance infrastructure.

6 We support WHO to continue this good work. Thank you.