

Intervention by
H.E. Dr. Sung Vinntak, Secretary of State, Ministry of Health, Kingdom of Cambodia
78th Session of the World Health Assembly (WHA78)
on Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement
or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response
Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
19-27-May, 2025

Honourable Chair, Ladies and Gentleman

Looking back, Cambodia successfully managed the COVID-19 response by 4 strategies- 1) leadership, 2) investment in health, 3) participation of whole-of-government, society, community and individual 4) solidarity and partnership.

Our systems were tested during the pandemic and strengthened through constant learnings and improvements.

The Pandemic Agreement will be critical to strengthening global collaboration on prevention, preparedness and response to future pandemic threats

There is an emphasis on transparency sharing information, equity, solidarity, and the One Health Approach, which are essential for effective pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response

There is a focus on strengthening health systems, enhancing surveillance, and ensuring the availability of pandemic-related health products through sustainable and geographically diversified local production

The establishment of the Global Supply Chain and Logistics Network and the Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing System are pivotal steps towards ensuring timely and equitable access to essential health products during pandemics

The adoption and implementation of the Pandemic Agreement in the spirit of international cooperation and collaboration is an important initiative for developing countries.

Cambodia is committed to working closely with WHO and other member states to operationalize the agreement, ensuring that our health systems are resilient and capable of responding to future health emergencies.

I Thank you!