

Bureau summary of next steps on recommendation mapping

1. Under the auspices of the Bureau of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies (WGPR) and following the discussion of the first meeting of the WGPR, the WHO Secretariat will develop a paper for the second meeting of the WGPR (1–3 September 2021) that maps the recommendations of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response (IPPPR), the Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) during the COVID-19 Response, and the Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Programme (IOAC), taking into account the relevant work of WHO, including that stemming from resolution WHA73.1 (2020) and decision EB148(12) (2021), as well as the work of other relevant bodies, organizations, non-State actors and any other relevant information:¹

- (a) mandated by Member States with regards to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic (IPPPR, IOAC and the Review Committee on the Functioning of the IHR (2005) during the COVID-19 Response);
- (b) issued by intergovernmental forums (such as G7/G20) regarding the ongoing and future pandemics; and
- (c) published by recognized independent expert parties that are pertinent to the COVID-19 pandemic (such as the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board).

2. Recommendations issued in relation to other previous public health emergencies of international concern (such as Ebola virus disease); or those developed by Member States (individually or as part of a multi-Member State group) will be included in the database to ensure a comprehensive compendium of recommendations. However, they will not be covered in the paper as they are beyond its central focus, which aims to help inform the WGPR discussions on how to prepare for and respond to future pandemics.

3. Further to the suggestions of many Member States, the Secretariat will further enhance the database to allow data to be sorted according to different parameters that enable an advanced, thematic analysis of the several hundred recommendations that currently populate the database, for example by filtering by the focus of the recommendations.

¹ Resolution WHA74.7 (2021).

4. In this paper, the Secretariat will provide a preliminary overview of recommendations according to different considerations, including:

- (i) Possible categories for grouping recommendations:
 - (a) similar/complementary recommendations and identification of those that might be contradictory;
 - (b) to which target group they are addressed (Secretariat, Member States, other);
 - (c) to which theme group they are addressed (health care, economy, other);
 - (d) the likely time frame for implementation (short, medium or long term); and
 - (e) their geographical reach or scope (global, regional or national).
- (ii) Possible mechanisms for implementing recommendation:
 - (a) Recommendations can be implemented through regular technical work of WHO as per its normative functions.
 - (b) Recommendations can be implemented immediately through existing frameworks, including International Health Regulations (2005) obligations, or World Health Assembly resolutions/decisions.
 - (c) Recommendations can be implemented through the amending or building on existing frameworks, for example the International Health Regulations (2005) or World Health Assembly resolutions/decisions.
 - (d) Recommendations may effectively/optimally be implemented through new WHO international agreement(s)/instrument(s).
 - (e) Recommendations may address or involve external bodies/actors.

5. Following discussions at the second meeting of the WGPR (1–3 September 2021), and taking into consideration WGPR comments, the Secretariat will further develop the paper to provide a more detailed analysis that may be considered by the WGPR at its third meeting (4–6 October 2021).

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