

Member States Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness for and Response to Health Emergencies

Workplan for the intersessional period from December 2021 to January 2022

1. In reference to resolution WHA74.7 (2021), in which the Health Assembly requests the Member States Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness for and Response to Health Emergencies (WGPR), *inter alia*, to:
 - (a) consider the findings and recommendations of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, the IHR Review Committee and the Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Programme, taking into account relevant work of WHO, including that stemming from resolution WHA73.1 (2020) and decision EB148(12) (2020), as well as the work of other relevant bodies, organizations, non-State actors and any other relevant information; and
 - (b) submit a report with proposed actions for the WHO Secretariat, Member States, and non-State actors, as appropriate, for consideration by the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly through the Executive Board at its 150th session.
2. **The Bureau proposes the following way forward:**
 - (a) **Preparation of EB150 report:** The Bureau will develop a zero draft interim report of WGPR for consideration by the Executive Board at its 150th session (EB150), to be provided to all Member States by **17 December 2021, 23:59 CET**. Member States or groups of Member States may provide written comments on the EB150 zero draft interim report for consideration by the Bureau by **4 January 2022, 23:59 CET**. In developing the EB150 zero draft interim report, the Bureau will endeavour to provide a succinct update on the work of the WGPR, drawing on the discussions at its first five meetings and the “deep dives”. The Bureau intends to focus the EB150 zero draft interim report on factual reporting in order to minimize the need for line-by-line negotiations to finalize it.
 - (b) **Sixth meeting of WGPR.** The WGPR will reconvene from **10 to 12 January 2022** to finalize the EB150 zero draft interim report and discuss its workplan for January–May 2022.
 - (c) **Survey on recommendations.** The Bureau will launch a survey in **December 2021** to collect inputs from Member States and other members of the WGPR on the 131 recommendations

of the independent review panels/committees.¹ The Bureau will develop the content of the survey with the primary goals of having Member States provide their views on implementing each of the 131 recommendations; indicate a basic prioritization among those recommendations; and provide their initial input on feasibility and potential methods of implementation through available tools. The survey will help shape the discussions and focus of the work of the WGPR in January–May 2022. The results of the survey will be shared transparently with members of the WGPR.

3. The Bureau is working towards the following timelines:
 - (a) *Weeks of 15 and 22 November.* Development by the Bureau of the survey mechanism.
 - (b) *Week of 29 November.* Release of survey for Member States to complete.
 - (c) *Week of 13 December.* Release to Member States of EB150 zero draft interim report.
 - (d) *Week of 3 January.* Deadline for Member States' submission of survey results and inputs to the EB150 zero draft interim report.
 - (e) *10–12 January.* Sixth meeting of WGPR: discussion and adoption of EB150 zero draft interim report and discussion of WGPR workplan for January–May 2022.

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¹ Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, Review Committee on the functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) during the COVID-19 Response; and Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Programme. The work of other relevant bodies, such as the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board, will also be taken into account.