

Bureau's summary report of the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies (21–23 February 2022)

1. The seventh meeting of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies (WGPR) was held virtually from 21 to 23 February 2022 and the programme¹ included:

- (i) a briefing on the Bureau's preliminary analysis of the survey on implementation of COVID-19 recommendations;
- (ii) discussion on the preliminary findings and analysis;
- (iii) consideration of Member States' proposals for action; and
- (iv) discussion on the process for preparing 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.

2. Member States noted the Bureau and the Secretariat preliminary analysis on the survey. They acknowledged that this was done under time constraints given the repeated and extended survey inputs deadline, as requested by Member States. Member States requested a deeper analysis of the results; they also stressed that the survey should serve as one of the tools for the WGPR's deliberations.

3. Member States requested the Bureau to start the preparations for developing the final report of the WGPR, including discussions on its format and content, to be submitted to the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly. Member States support the mandate in resolution WHA74.7 (2021) to provide a report with proposed actions for the WHO Secretariat, Member States and non-State actors, as appropriate. Member States continued to emphasize: prioritizing equity as an objective and outcome in the final report; the critical role of strengthening of the International Health Regulations (2005), including through implementation, compliance and potential amendments; and the need for sustainable financing, both for WHO and for broader pandemic prevention, preparedness and response.

4. Member States also requested the Bureau to provide a clearer timeline of WGPR's activities until the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly, taking into account other processes such as the deliberations of the Working Group on Sustainable Financing and the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to draft

¹ The full text of the programme of work is available at: https://apps.who.int/gb/wgpr/e/e_wgpr-7.html.

and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response.

5. The WGPR noted the planned intersessional informal meetings for deeper discussions intended to lead to specific recommendations. As a way forward and based on the discussions of the seventh meeting, the Bureau committed to develop and circulate to Member States, in advance of the eighth meeting of the WGPR (28–30 March 2022), a draft textual proposal of the WGPR’s recommendations to the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly, for consideration.

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