

Report of the meeting

1. The third meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response was held from 5 to 7 December 2022 in a hybrid format, under the leadership of Mr Roland Driee of the Netherlands and Ms Precious Matsoso of South Africa as Co-Chairs, with the following Vice-Chairs: Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes of Brazil, Mr Ahmed Soliman of Egypt, Mr Kazuho Taguchi of Japan and Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien of Thailand. The meeting was publicly webcast.
2. In his opening remarks, the Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, welcomed the conceptual zero draft as a reflection of the aspirations for a different paradigm for strengthening pandemic prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. He urged Member States to maintain the momentum to deliver on both the accord and the amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005), led by the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WGIHR). He said that both are essential for strengthening the global health security architecture and were mutually reinforcing. He also noted that, to ensure the Secretariat's full and coordinated support to WHO's Member States during this critical time, the established WHO Secretariat team will continue to support the INB and the WGIHR processes.
3. The INB expressed its appreciation to the Bureau for developing the conceptual zero draft of the WHO CA+ and circulating the document in time for delegations to consider it in advance of the meeting. Member States and relevant stakeholders welcomed, and provided comments on, the conceptual zero draft. They agreed that, with respect to the zero draft of the WHO CA+, the INB Bureau – with support from the WHO Secretariat – will prepare the zero draft, based on the conceptual zero draft and input received during the third meeting of the INB (INB3), with legal provisions, for consideration by the INB at its next meeting, and as a proposed basis for commencing negotiations at the fourth meeting of the INB (INB4), it being understood that the zero draft will be without prejudice to the position of any delegation and following the principle that “nothing is agreed until everything is agreed”. An advance English version of the zero draft will be circulated to Member States by 1 February 2023, and the translated version – in all other WHO official languages – by 10 February 2023.
4. Several delegations reiterated the importance of coordinating the work of the INB with that of the WGIHR, including avoiding overlaps of meetings and allowing sufficient time for delegations to prepare ahead of the meetings. The Co-Chairs highlighted that an initial meeting of the two Bureaux had been held, and it was agreed to maintain active coordination and promote coherence between the two processes.
5. With respect to its consideration of Agenda item 3, the INB agreed to the timeline and modalities contained in document A/INB/3/4, without prejudice to further consideration, as appropriate. Member States highlighted the importance of avoiding parallel meetings and the need for sufficient preparation

time for meetings of the INB and the WGIHR. The INB further agreed to include an additional meeting of the drafting group; that addition would be reflected in an updated version of document A/INB/3/4.

6. With respect to participation in the drafting group meetings, the INB agreed to also invite the observer delegations of the Holy See and Palestine. In addition, the INB agreed to follow the well-established practice of the Health Assembly, wherein drafting groups are not publicly broadcast, nonetheless noting the importance of the continued transparency of the work of the INB and the need for continued engagement with relevant stakeholders through the modalities established in documents A/INB/1/3 Rev. 1 and A/INB/2/4. The meetings will be held in a hybrid format.

7. The INB approved an additional list of entities proposed by Member States for inclusion in Annex E of document A/INB/2/4. The Secretariat was requested to revise the document as agreed; it continues to be a living document, with further possibilities for updates as may be deemed appropriate by the INB.

8. The meeting considered and approved its report and the Co-Chairs closed the session.

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