



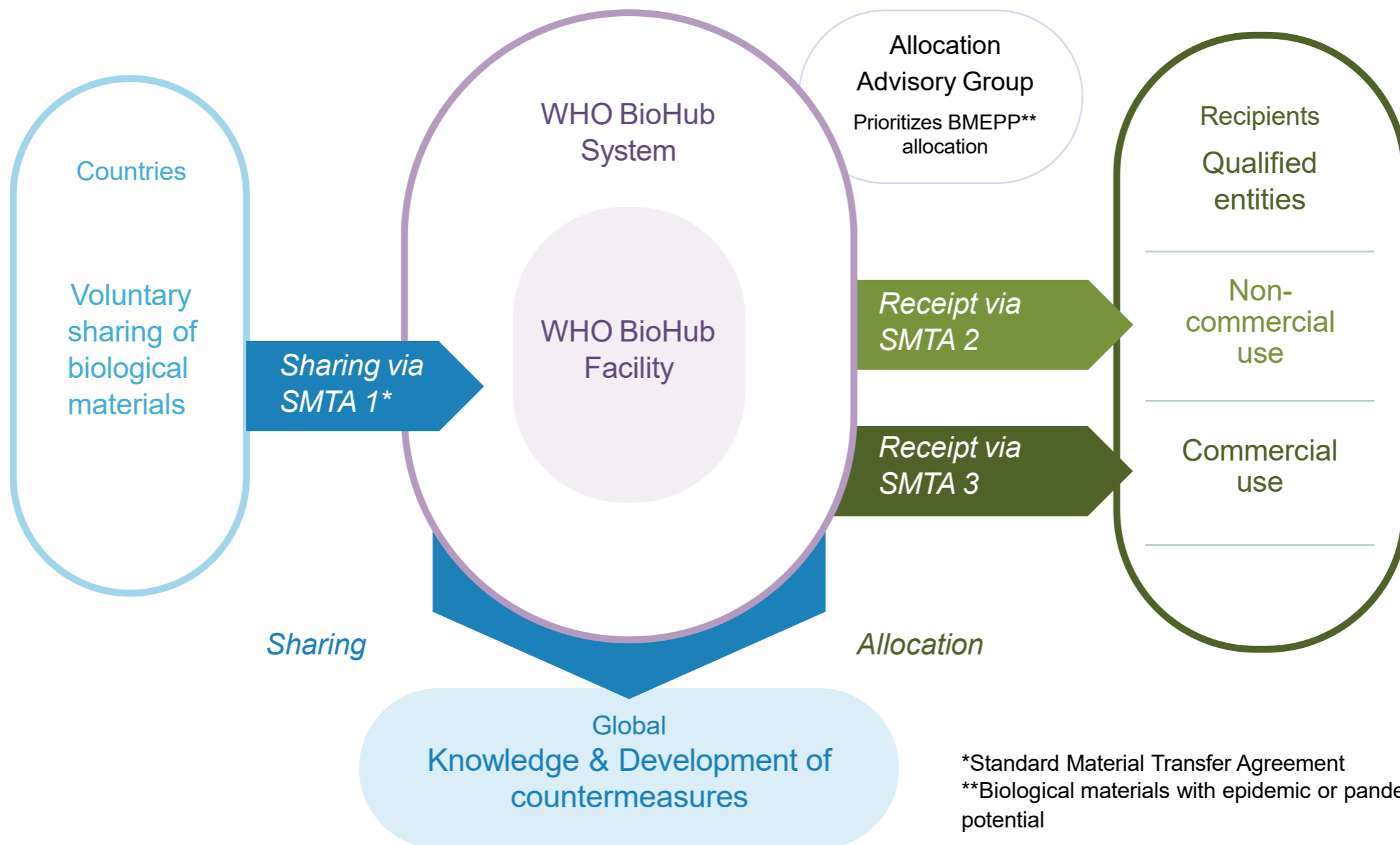
# WHO BioHub System

## WHO Technical MS Briefing Stream 2 – System Design

7 October 2021



# WHO BioHub System: Concept & Elements

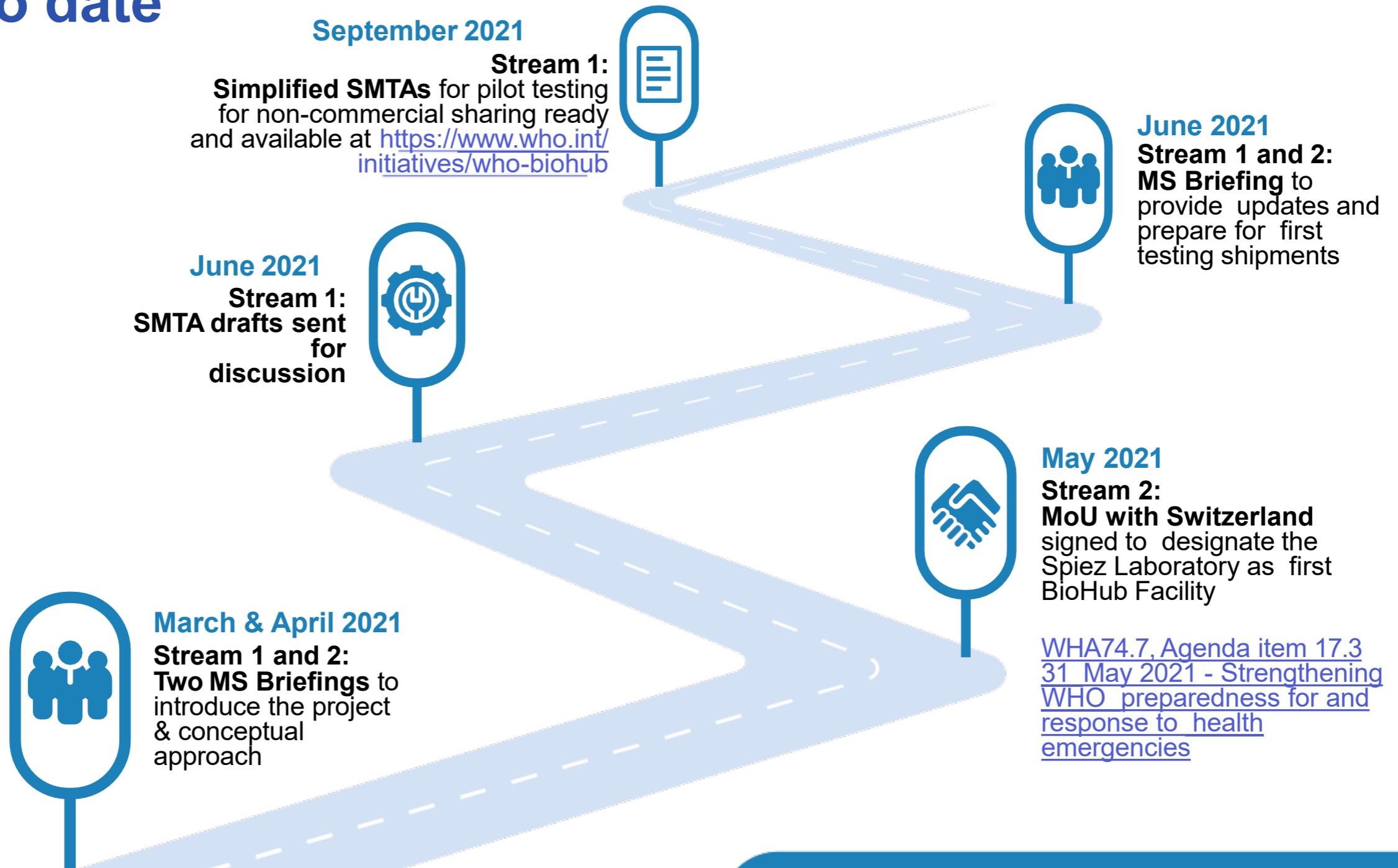


# Objectives of the WHO BioHub System

- **Only applies to BMEPP - biological materials with epidemic or pandemic potential;**
- **Objectives:**
  - Promote timely sharing of BMEPP;
  - Facilitate rapid access and analysis of BMEPP to enable:
    - risk assessment and
    - development of effective and safe countermeasures including diagnostics, vaccines and therapeutics; and
  - Ensure fair and equitable access to such products by all countries, based on public health needs.
- *It is not replacing existing and future sharing systems (e.g. GISRS for Influenza, bilateral agreements, or viral archives/bio-banks)*
- *It aims to be complimentary with other mechanisms*
- *We need to design the WHO BioHub System to be better prepared for the next pandemic.*



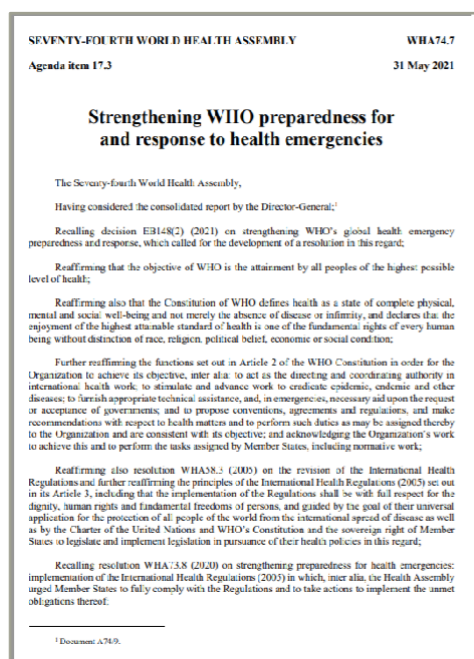
# Progress to date



# WHO will advance work in accordance with WHA 74.7

WHO is aiming to:

- Serve the request from MS made in WHA74.7, Agenda item 17.3 31 May 2021
- Ensure availability of a pathogen sharing system that can be rapidly activated in the event of Disease X



## Paragraph 9.15:

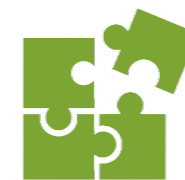
- *work together with Member States, the medical and scientific community, and laboratory and surveillance networks,*
- *to promote early, safe, transparent and rapid sharing of samples and genetic sequence data of pathogens of pandemic and epidemic, or other high-risk, potential,*
- *taking into account relevant national and international laws, regulations, obligations and frameworks, including, as appropriate, the International Health Regulations (2005), the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization and the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework and*
- *the importance of ensuring rapid access to human pathogens for public health preparedness and response purposes;”.*

# Engagement approaches with MS (until EB 150)



## Stream 1 Pilot Testing

Through COVID-19  
Thursday MS Briefings  
– as it involves SAR-  
COV-2 sharing.



## Stream 2 System Design

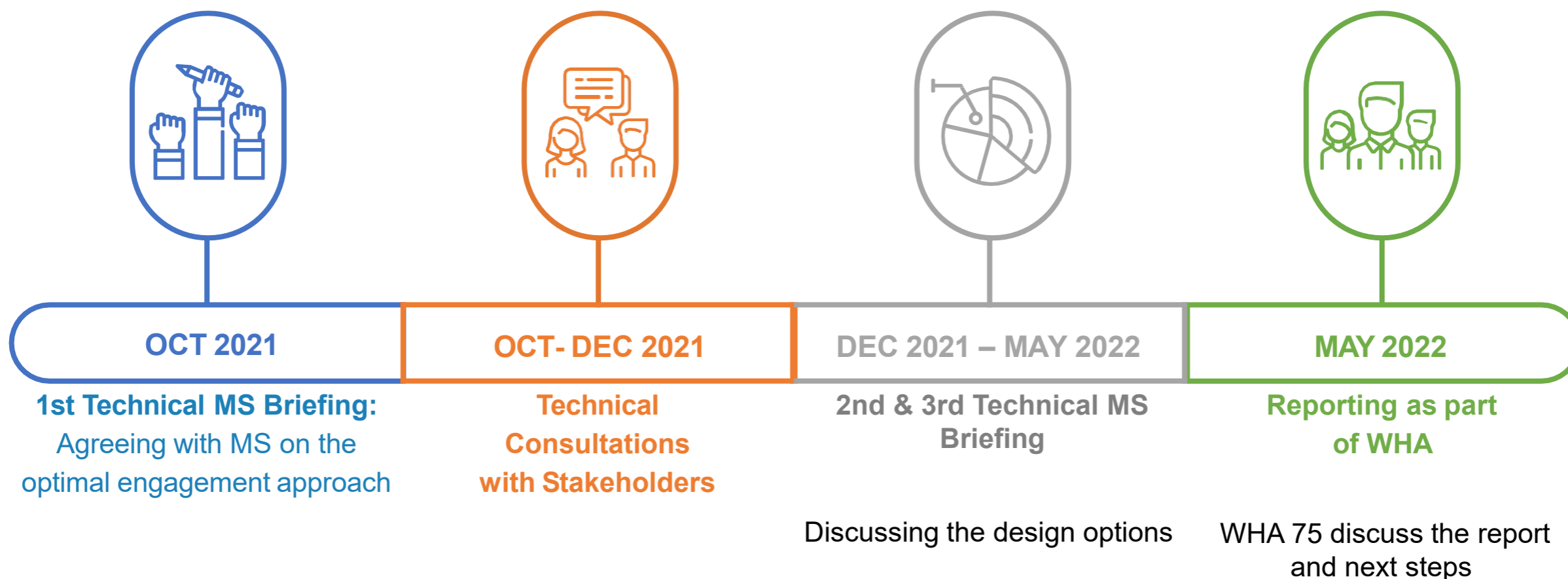
Through:

**Technical MS Briefings**

**Technical  
consultations  
with all  
stakeholders**

*MS will be asked to advise  
on the process involving  
all MS and relevant  
stakeholders.*

# Stream 2 - MS engagement approach



# Proposed consultations' format

## Background documents prep

Creating background documents on that particular theme

## Stakeholders' Consultations

Virtual consultation with key stakeholders depending on the theme

## MS Further Input

Report back to MS on the stakeholders' inputs through:

Technical MS Briefings

Web posting of reports

Direct communication with WHO BioHub Secretariat

## WHO Secretariat reporting

Implement MS feedback and prepare text for WHA reporting



# Proposed topics for technical consultations with stakeholders



## Research and links with other biorepositories

Handling research results and appropriate recognition of contributions

**Key (technical) stakeholders:**  
Lab networks, scientists and biorepositories etc



## IPR and GSD

Intellectual Property Rights and Sharing of Genetic Sequence Data

**Key (technical) stakeholders:**  
Legal experts and civil society and industry, other UN agencies, etc



## Access to benefits arising from the sharing of BMEPP

- Difference between non-commercial and commercial benefits

**Key (technical) stakeholders:**  
Legal experts esp. on Nagoya, civil society and industry involvement, etc

# MS Engagement Dates

Oct 2021



**First Technical MS Briefing** – 7 Oct – 9:30-11:00

**Tentative dates for the technical consultations with stakeholders** (GVA time) – we may have ‘doubling sessions’ to accommodate time difference:

- **Theme 1 (Research and links with other repositories):** 28 October 2021 (15:00 - 17:00)
- **Theme 2 (Intellectual Property Rights and Sharing of Genetic Sequence Data):** 17 November 2021 (14:00 – 16:00)
- **Theme 3 (Access to benefits arising from the sharing of BMEPP):** 7 December 2021 (14:00- 16:00)



Dec 2021



**Second Technical MS Briefing** – tentative 16 December 2021

Mar 2022



**Third Technical MS Briefing** in March 2022 (date TBC).

Regular updates on Stream 1 – Pilot Testing will be given during the MS COVID-19 Information Sessions (Thursdays)

**WHO BioHub System**



# Today's discussions

**Do you agree with the proposed engagement plan?**

**Are the proposed technical consultation with stakeholders' themes in line with the issues you see most important?**

**Are the proposed stakeholders' categories agreeable?**

Stakeholders as per WHA 74.7:

- Medical and scientific community
- Laboratory and surveillance networks

As per existing global frameworks:

- Civil society
- Industry (manufacturers and commercial entities)

# THANK YOU

<https://www.who.int/initiatives/who-biohub/>

WHO Secretariat can be reached for any further inputs at:

[biohub@who.int](mailto:biohub@who.int)