

WHO Pandemic Agreement

Draft resolution proposed by the 47 Member States of the African Region

The Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly,

(PP1) Recalling decision SSA2(5) (2021), entitled “The World Together: Establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating body to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness and response”, which established the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, with a view to adoption under Article 19, or under other provisions of the WHO Constitution;

(PP2) Recalling that the INB agreed, at its second meeting, that the instrument should be legally binding and contain both legally binding as well as non-legally binding elements, and identified that Article 19 of the WHO Constitution is the comprehensive provision under which the instrument should be adopted, without prejudice to also considering, as work progresses, the suitability of Article 21;¹

(PP3) Expressing appreciation for the work of the INB and its Bureau, and welcoming the report of the INB on the outcome of its work;²

(PP4) Recognizing that the INB reached convergence on many elements of the Pandemic Agreement, and that further work needs to be done on some key remaining elements;

(PP5) Reaffirming the full commitment of Member States to take action to prevent, prepare for and respond to pandemics, guided by equity,

DECIDES:

(1) to extend the mandate of the INB, which shall continue its work to finalize the Pandemic Agreement under the same Bureau, and shall submit its final outcome for consideration by a special session of the World Health Assembly;

(2) to request the Director-General to convene the above referenced special session of the World Health Assembly before the end of 2024, and to include on the agenda of the special session, only one item, dedicated to considering the final outcome of the INB referred to in paragraph 1;

¹ See document A/INB/2/5.

² Document A77/10.

(3) to request the Executive Board at its 155th session to determine, in accordance with Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, that the special session of the World Health Assembly referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this resolution will be held before the end of 2024 at WHO headquarters;

(4) to request the Director-General to continue to provide the INB with the necessary services and facilities for the performance of its work.

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