
Intergovernmental Negotiating Body

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 session, 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;

(PP3) Recognizing that the INB has achieved progress, and reached initial agreement on many provisions of the proposed WHO Pandemic Agreement, and that further work needs to be done on remaining elements;

(PP4) Taking note of the report by the Director-General¹ and expressing appreciation for the work of the INB and its Bureau; and

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

(OP)1. DECIDES:

(1) to extend the mandate of the INB to finish its work as soon as possible, and submit its outcome for consideration by the Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly in 2025, or earlier by a special session of the World Health Assembly if possible in 2024 with only one agenda item dedicated to this outcome;

(2) that for its future work, the INB shall allow for the rotation of the Bureau, as appropriate, and if agreed within each region;

(3) that the next meeting of the INB shall be held in July 2024, in hybrid mode with interpretation, with the dates to be confirmed by the Secretariat as soon as possible, in order to consider and agree on its workplan and meeting schedule and consider, as appropriate, updates to the INB’s method of work, consistent with this decision and decision SSA2(5) (2021);

(4) to request the Director-General to continue to support the INB, including by providing the INB with the necessary services and facilities for the performance of its work, including complete, relevant and timely information and advice.

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¹ Document A77/10.