

Statement to the Resumed Thirteenth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to Draft and Negotiate a WHO Convention, Agreement or Other International Instrument of Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response

7 April 2025

This INB has a very ambitious goal. To conclude the text of a pandemic agreement that will make concrete impact to advance global health equity. We need to see leadership and will from Member States to make this a reality.

While compromise is necessary, the agreement must not be reduced to a weak instrument that will not substantially overcome the deep inequalities and inefficiencies that characterized the response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The current draft text as a whole falls short of meeting the objectives and mandate for a pandemic agreement set by the World Health Assembly. There is a gap in legal actionable commitments that are needed to advance equity. This weakens the treaty's ability to deliver real impact.

The agreement should avoid leaving key issues for subsequent negotiation. Concerning article 12, at a minimum, the agreement should include as part of the main text the core elements for an Annex on the Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing (PABS) system, including a defined minimum 20% production percentage of medical products reserved for developing countries. Moreover, the Agreement's entry into force must be explicitly tied to the complete elaboration of that Annex.

We wish you much success in the deliberations.