

WHO BioHub System

Technical Consultation

‘Approaches to handling **Genetic Sequence Data** for the future pandemic system’

19 November 2021



Agenda



- Opening remarks
- Introduction to the WHO BioHub System and its Guiding Principles
- Presentation of meeting objectives
- Moderated discussion
- Closing remarks

Opening remarks



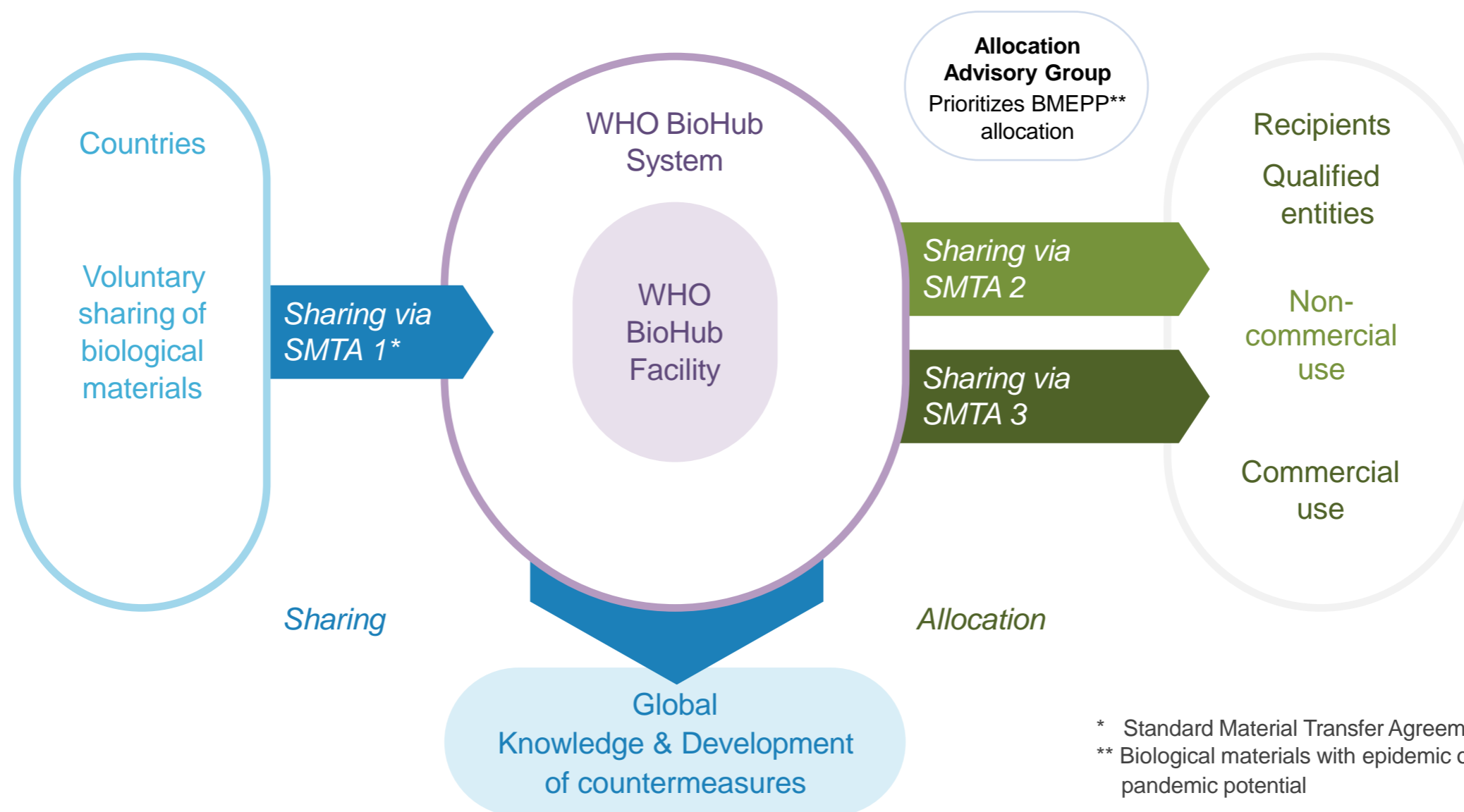
Dr Catharina Boehme
WHO Chef de Cabinet



Dr Michael Ryan
Executive Director
WHO Health Emergencies Programme

Introduction to the WHO BioHub System and its Guiding Principles

WHO BioHub System: Concept & Elements



Guiding Principles of the WHO BioHub System



A voluntary system for the global public health



Timeliness



Equity and fairness



Collaboration & Cooperation



Transparency



Best practices for safety and security



Acknowledgement and co-authorship



Consistency with applicable law



Consistency with applicable ethical regulations, norms, and standards requirements



Sustainability and maximal preservation

The full text of the Guiding Principles can be found at:

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

WHO BioHub System



Key Guiding Principles in focus for this thematic session



Timeliness

To enable an effective public health response, the end-to-end system from sample collection to shipping and generation of scientific information must function with urgency. Data and analyses will be made publicly available in a timely manner, while respecting all applicable WHO, international, and national regulations and standards, and communicated promptly to decision-makers in the affected countries as well as more broadly to all WHO Member States to support effective and timely response measures.

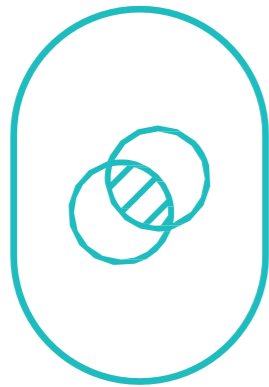
Key Guiding Principles in focus for this thematic session



Equity and fairness

Equity and fairness, as well as public health risk and need, will govern access to BMEPP contributed to the WHO BioHub System, and the research, data, and other materials resulting from the WHO BioHub System.

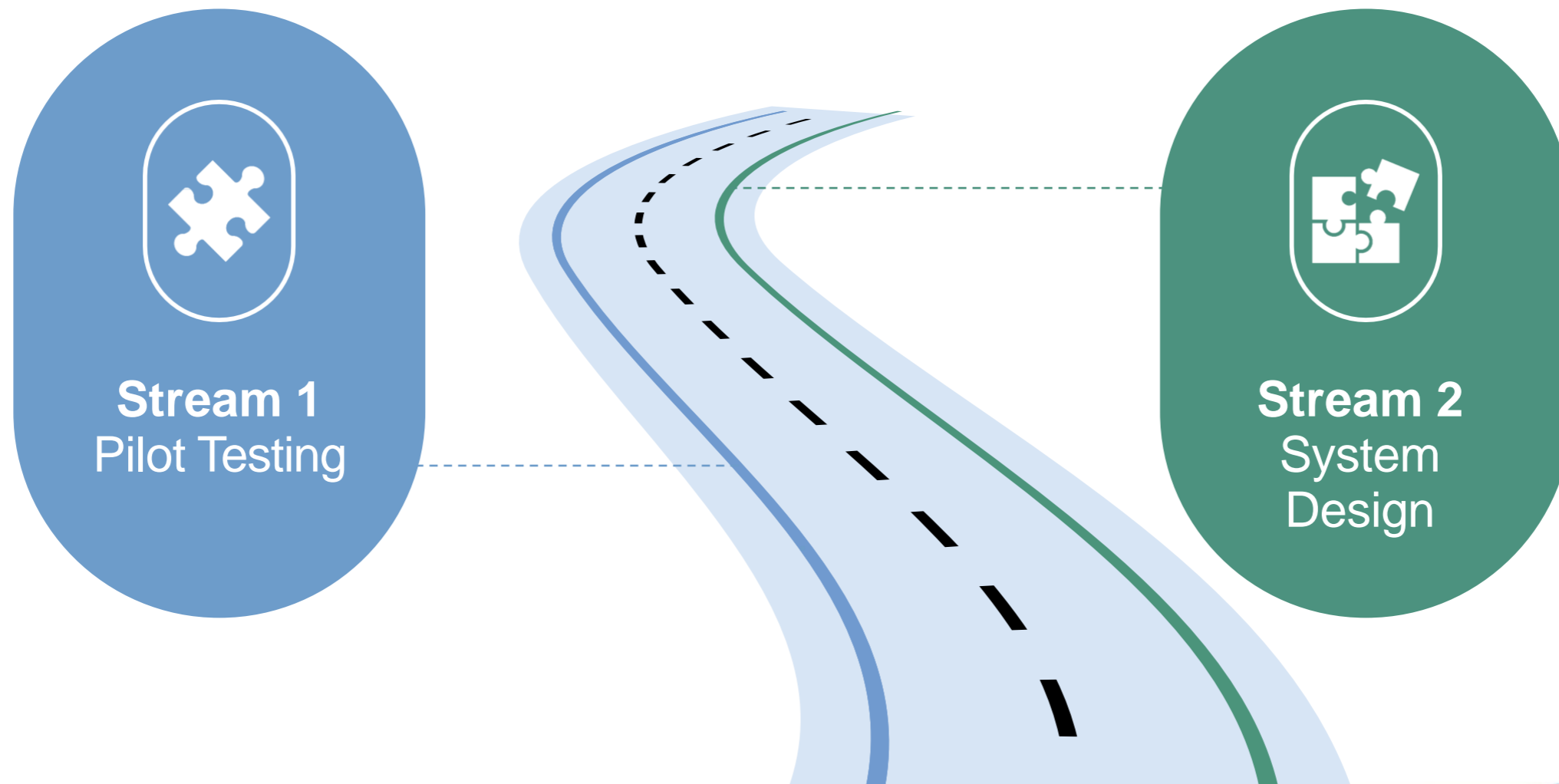
Key Guiding Principles in focus for this thematic session



Transparency

Terms and conditions with respect to the use of BMEPP, sequence data and information from the WHO BioHub System will be made publicly available, as will criteria to receive BMEPP.

Approach to developing the WHO BioHub System



WHO BioHub System

WHO is working in accordance with WHA 74.7



WHO / Antoine Tardy

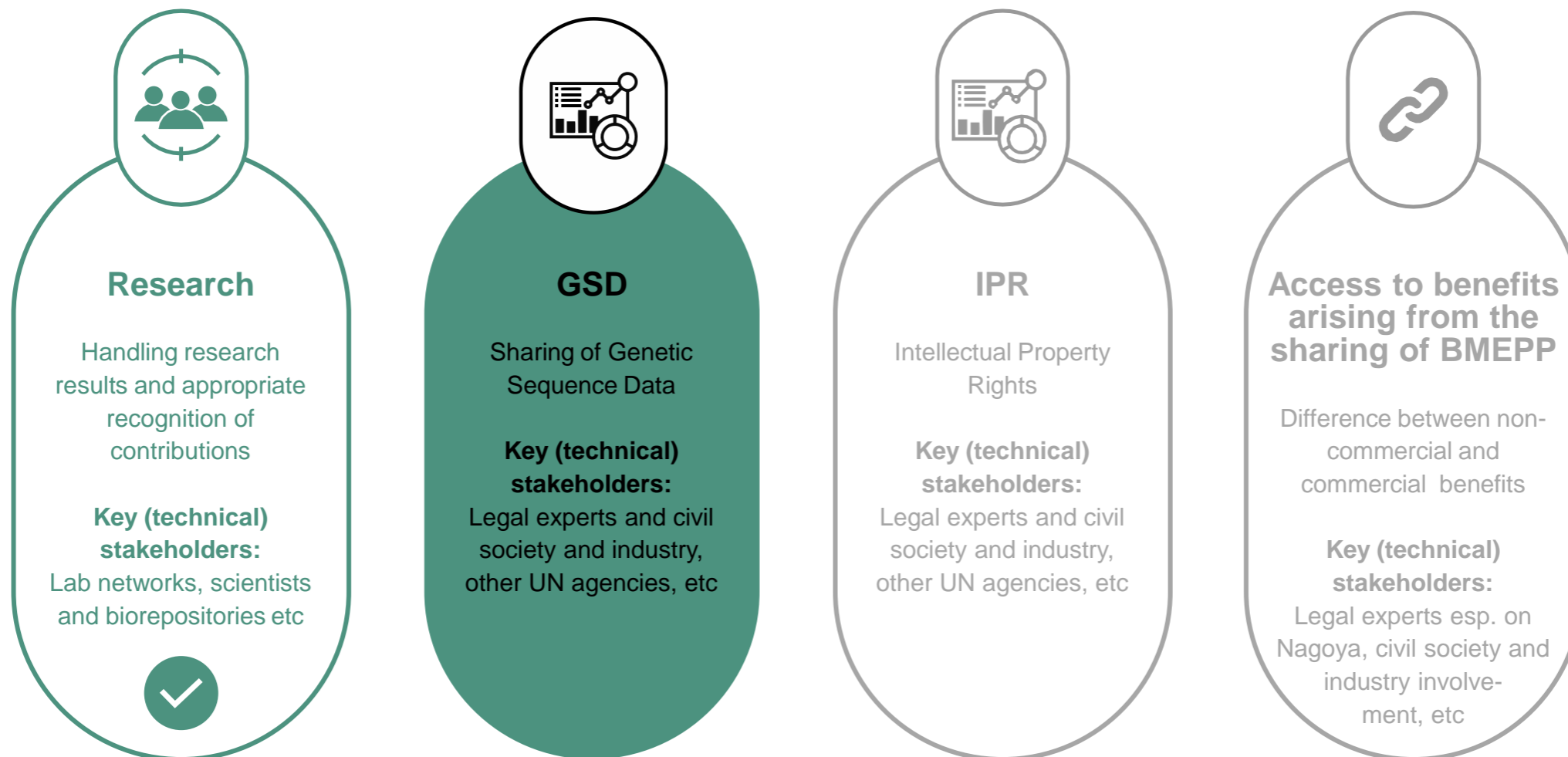
WHO is aiming to:

- 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

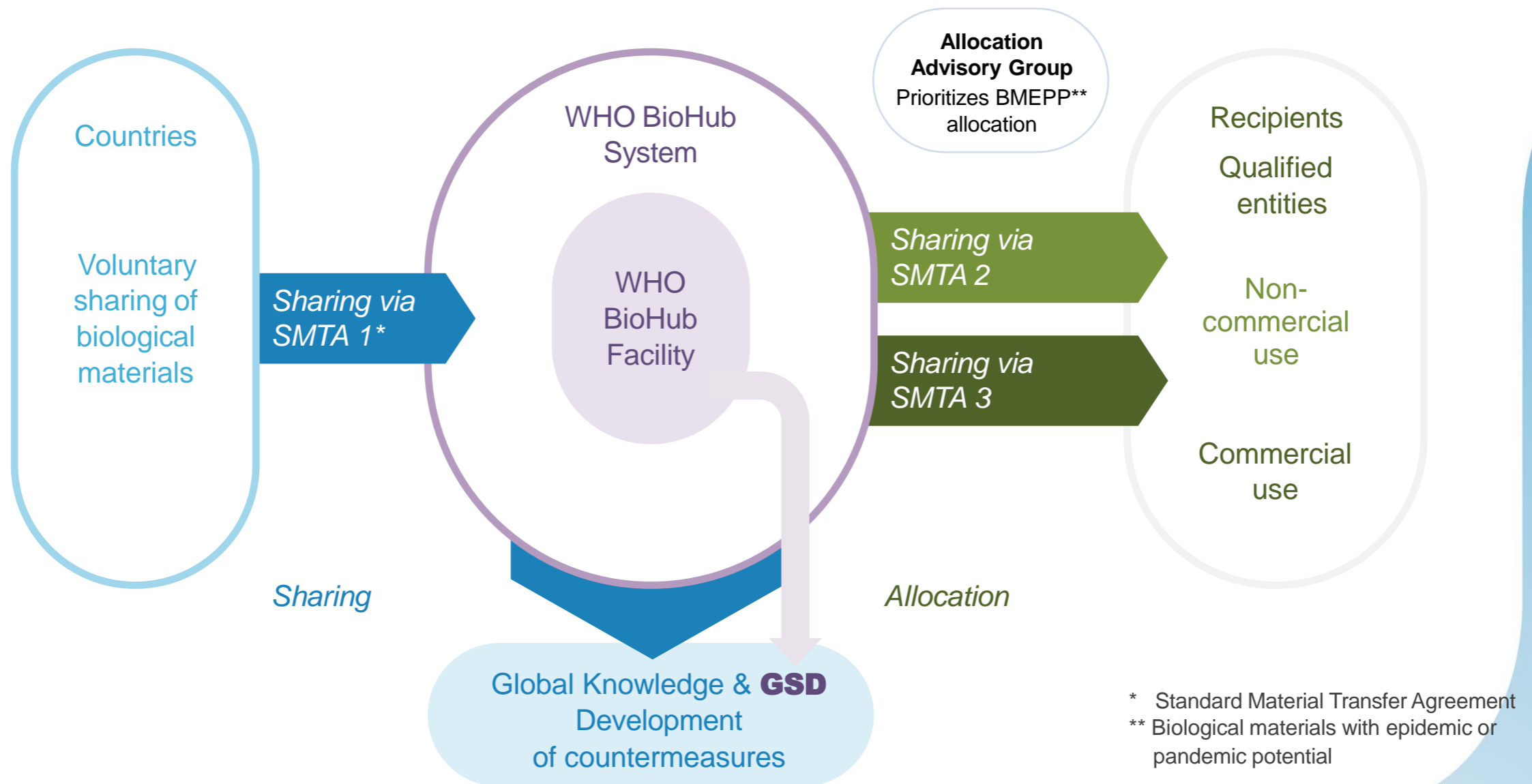
Paragraph 9.15:

- *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;”.*

Topics for technical consultations with stakeholders

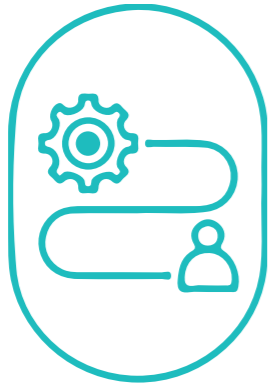


WHO BioHub System: Concept & Elements



WHO BioHub System

Meeting objectives



The consultation aims to:

- obtain input from various stakeholders to design the WHO BioHub System
- engage different stakeholder communities early on, in the design of the System, to ensure its smooth global functioning, to bring global benefits and to advance public health goals

Discussion



1. What do you consider to be the most important **factors and considerations relating to GSD** vis-à-vis the **BioHub project**?
2. What are your views on:
 - GSD generated from processing of BMEPP being made **publicly accessible** and
 - whether the **Provider of BMEPP** should be able to choose **which type of databases categories** to upload GSD in?
3. How can we address the **handling and use of BMEPP GSD** to **promote fair and equitable sharing of public health benefits** arising from its use?

Thank you!

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

WHO Secretariat can be reached for any further inputs at:
biohub@who.int