

# **Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Review Committee regarding amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR)**

15-16 December 2022

Virtual, via Zoom platform

The [Review Committee regarding amendments to the International Health Regulations \(2005\)](#) (hereafter, the Review Committee, Committee, or RC) met virtually for its Fifth Meeting on 15 and 16 December 2022, from 12:00 to 16:00 CET (GMT+1) on both days. The provisional agenda and list of Committee's Members are presented as annexes 1 and 2 at the end of this report.

The WHO Secretariat opened the meeting to welcome the Committee Members and addressed administrative and legal matters.

The meeting was then handed over to the Vice-Chair, H.E. Ambassador Juan José Gómez-Camacho, who, in his turn, handed over the chairmanship of the meeting to the Rapporteur, Dr Clare Wenham.

The main objectives of the meeting were to conduct and conclude the third, reading and analysis of proposed amendments, following an article-by-article/annex-by-annex approach; to consolidate the input of the Committee's Members regarding existing drafts of specific sections of the Final RC Report; and to fine tune the approach for the finalization of the Final RC Report.

Due to competing priorities within the WHO Secretariat, the draft report of the Fourth RC Meeting could not be shared with the Committee's Members, and its discussion was postponed to the Sixth RC Meeting, 9-13 January 2023.

The Committee dedicated the entire session on 15 December 2022, and half of the session on 16 December 2022, to the finalization of the third reading and analysis of proposed amendments. The discussions followed online exchanges among the Committee's Members and were based on article/annex-specific summary files developed by the WHO Secretariat in preparation for the Final RC Report. For each article/annex, the Committee reached in-principle consensus on key considerations to be reflected in the Final RC Report. These were captured in real-time in the above-mentioned summary files. The Committee agreed to consider proposed amendments to Articles 2 and 3, as well as prospective amendments to Article 1, during its Sixth Meeting, scheduled to take place in person, 9-13 January 2023.

The last part of the meeting was dedicated to discussing and refining the drafts of specific sections of the Final RC Report prepared by some Committee Members as agreed during the Fourth RC Meeting, 28 November-2 December 2022. In broad terms, those sections related to general considerations on the proposed amendments and context in which they were submitted; and cross-cutting themes.

Acknowledging the critical importance of its Sixth Meeting for fine tuning its Final Report, the Committee agreed on the Members' respective tasks and timeline to finalize and submit it the Final Report to the WHO Director-General by 15 January 2023, in accordance with [Decision WHA75\(9\)](#).

## Annex 1. Provisional Agenda

### Provisional Agenda

#### International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) Review Committee regarding the Amendments to the IHR (RC)

#### Fifth Meeting

15-16 December 2022

Virtual

#### Objectives of the meeting

1. To review draft sections of the report: the introductory sections and the section related to the article-by-article analysis of proposed amendments.
2. To approve the report of the Fourth RC Meeting, held from 28 November to 2 December 2022.
3. To prepare for the Sixth RC Meeting, 9-13 January 2023, including meeting with WHO Member States, United Nations and its specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in official relations with WHO.

Time GMT +1	Wednesday, 15 December 2022
11:30-12:00	Connection to the meeting via Zoom
12:00-12:05	Convening / opening of meeting (DG or designee)
12:05-12:20	<b>Administrative matters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Background on IHR, the RC and its mandate, organization and operations, obligations (WHO/LEG)</li><li>- Institutional requirements such as the role and status of Members and Advisers and issues in relation to Declarations of Interests and Confidentiality Undertaking (WHO/CRE)</li></ul> <b>Handover to Chair</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Presentation of the objectives of the meeting</li><li>- Adoption of the Report of the Fourth Meeting</li></ul>
12:20-14:30	Review of draft sections of the article-by-article analysis of proposals for amendments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Part II – Information and public health response – Articles 5-14, including new Article 13</b></li><li>- <b>Annexes 1 – Core capacities requirements for surveillance and response</b></li><li>- <b>Annex 2 - Decision Instrument for the Assessment and Notification of Events that May Constitute a Public Health Emergency of International Concern</b></li></ul>
14:30-14:40	Recess

14:40-16:00	Review of draft sections of the article-by-article analysis of proposals for amendments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Part III – Recommendations – Articles 15-18</b></li> <li>- <b>Part IV – Points of entry – Articles 23 – 34</b></li> <li>- <b>Part VI – Health documents – Articles 35 – 39</b></li> <li>- <b>Annexes 3 – Model ship sanitation control exemption certificate/ship sanitation control certificate</b></li> <li>- <b>Annex 4 – Technical requirements pertaining to conveyances and conveyance operators</b></li> <li>- <b>Annex 6 – Vaccination, prophylaxis and related certificates</b></li> <li>- <b>Annex 8 – Model of maritime declaration of health</b></li> </ul>
	Adjourn

Time GMT +1	Friday, 16 December 2022
11:30-12:00	Connection to the meeting via Zoom
12:00-13:30	Review of draft sections of the article-by-article analysis of proposals for amendments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Part VIII – General provisions – Articles 42-46, including new Article 44</b></li> <li>- <b>New Annex 10 - Obligations of Duty to Cooperate</b></li> <li>- <b>Part IX – The IHR Roster of Experts, Emergency Committee and Review Committee – Articles 47-53, including new Articles 53 bis-quart, Article 53A, and new article 54 NEW</b></li> <li>- <b>Part X – Final provisions – Articles 54-56</b></li> </ul>
13:30 -14:30	Analysis of and recommendations related to proposals for amendments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Part I – Definitions, purpose and scope, principles and responsible authorities – Articles 1-4</b></li> </ul>
14:30-14:40	Recess
14:40-15.30	Review draft sections A and B related to cross-cutting themes and methodology
15.30-15:55	Preparations for the Sixth RC Meeting, 9-13 January 2023
15:55-16:00	Closing of the meeting

## Annex 2. List of members

### List of Members

#### International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) Review Committee regarding the Amendments to the IHR (RC)

#### Fifth Meeting

15-16 December 2022

Virtual

	Name and Nationality(ies)	Affiliation
1.	Mohammad ABDELFAHATTAH Egypt	Undersecretary for Preventive Affairs, Preventive Medicine Sector, Ministry of Health and Population, Cairo, Egypt
2.	Obijiofor AGINAM Nigeria	Principal Visiting Fellow, United Nations University, International Institute for Global Health, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Adjunct Research Professor of Law and Legal Studies, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada Visiting Research Fellow, United Nations University, Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies, Bruges, Belgium
3.	Mohannad AL-NSOUR Jordan	Executive Director, Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET), Amman, Jordan
4.	Patrick Omwanda AMOTH (Chair) Kenya	Acting Director General for Health, Ministry of Health, Nairobi, Kenya
5.	Gian Luca BURCI Italy, Switzerland	Adjunct Professor of international law and Academic Adviser in the Global Health Centre, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland Director of the joint LLM on Global Health Law and Governance, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland, and Georgetown Law School, Washington DC, United States of America
6.	Cherita DAVIS-MOXY The Bahamas	Lead, Planning & Policy Unit, Ministry of Health & Wellness, The Bahamas
7.	Andrew FORSYTH New Zealand	Manager, Public Health Strategy, Ministry of Health, New Zealand
8.	H.E. Ambassador Juan José GÓMEZ-CAMACHO (Vice-Chair) Mexico	Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Institute, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Washington DC, United States of America
9.	Lawrence GOSTIN	Professor, Founding O'Neill Chair in Global Health Law, and Faculty Director, O'Neill Institute for National and Global

	United States of America	Health Law, Georgetown University, Washington DC, United States of America
10.	Roojin HABIBI Canada	Research Fellow, Global Strategy Lab, York University, Toronto, Canada Fellow, Canadian International Council Lecturer, Lincoln Alexander School of Law, Toronto Metropolitan University, Toronto, Canada
11.	George HARINGHUIZEN The Netherlands	Chief Legal Officer, Centre for Infectious Disease Control, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), Bilthoven, The Netherlands
12.	Hani JOKHDAR Saudi Arabia	Deputy Minister for Public Health, Ministry of Health, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
13.	Yang LIU China	Assistant Professor, Law School, and Director of the Center for Global Law and Strategy, Law and Technology Institute, Renmin University of China, Beijing, China
14.	Rana SAFDAR Pakistan	Chief, Field Epidemiology & Disease Surveillance Division, National Institute of Health, Islamabad, Pakistan
15.	Aalisha SAHUKHAN Fiji	Head of Health Protection, Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Suva, Fiji
16.	Sandhya Dilhani SAMARASEKERA Sri Lanka	Consultant Community Physician, Quarantine Unit, Ministry of Health, Colombo, Sri Lanka
17.	Vyacheslav SMOLENSKIY Russian Federation	Deputy Head, Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing (Rospotrebnadzor), Moscow, Russian Federation
18.	Sunita SREEDHARAN India	Lawyer and Registered Patent Agent, New Delhi, India
19.	Clare WENHAM <b>(Rapporteur)</b> United Kingdom	Associate Professor of Global Health Policy, Department of Health Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom