

PIP Advisory Group Special session 13 October 2015

Norwegian statement

Chairman/Mme Chair;

The 2011 adoption by the World Health Assembly of the PIP Framework was a landmark for the WHO. After lengthy and unusually demanding negotiations, involving complex issues of a scientific, legal, political and governance nature, Member States managed to agree on a system for sharing influenza virus and subsequent benefits. This system;

- puts sharing of virus and access to the benefits from this sharing, on an equal footing. The obligation to share is matched by a right to access the benefits
- It makes the vaccine industry an integral part of the framework, with legal obligations to contribute - financially and in kind - for virus they receive
- The partnership contribution enables capacity building and strengthening of preparedness in WHO Member state
- The system ensures transparency regarding how the virus are shared

The challenge before us is of course the interconnectedness of today's world, where a virus has the potential to travel fast and cause serious disease outbreaks that move across national borders – a fact demonstrated during the latest Ebola outbreak. The PIP framework was the collective response from WHO member states. We need to build on this success as we are now once again at a critical point of strengthening our global health security.

We thank the Secretariat for the briefing note produced for this special session, noting especially the good progress made in the implementation of the Framework. We also see that challenges regarding implementation remain, notably the establishment of SMTA 2-contracts with industry. We trust that the upcoming review will assess these challenges and suggest potential solutions to overcome them.

We take note of the points mentioned in other interventions here today to be included in the list of issues for consideration in the upcoming review. We would appreciate an informal opportunity to re-engage with the Advisory group regarding their work before their report goes to the Executive Board for the January 2016 meeting.

Thank you.