

Note for the Record. 26.03.24. WHO Faith network for emergencies.

Agenda:

- 1) Planning for Pandemics.
- 2) Discussion and partner updates.

Planning for Pandemics.

The small team has moved into a bigger unit PGP (Pandemic preparedness Global Platforms unit) and are building synergies with the faith work. Sarah provided a brief overview of the preparedness landscape.

- 3) [Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats \(PRET\)](#)
- 4) IHR- updated in 2005 is an instrument of international law it includes the criteria required to declare a [Public Health Emergency of International Concern \(PHEIC\)](#).
- 5) WHO framework for [Strengthening the global architecture for health emergency prevention, preparedness and response and resilience \(HEPR\)](#).

The presentation was followed by discussion.

Partner updates and useful resources:

1. Jane Ng'ang'a provided update on work of the Kenya Interfaith working council including a call to action developed in collaboration with other regional faith networks.^{1,2}
 - a. The African Christian Health Associations Platform. [ACHAP](#),
 - b. The Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network [EPN](#) and
 - c. The [All African Conference of Churches](#).
2. Gracia Violetta Ross provided update on work of the World Council of Churches (WCC) to establish a [health commission](#) with four working groups: accessibility to healthcare; mental health; HIV and reproductive health; and faith in science.
3. Asavari Herwadkar, provided an update on participation of Hindu leaders during the COVID-19 pandemic in initiatives to support mental health; vaccine uptake and provide food to the needy.
4. Kathy Erb, from CCIH shared a resource, developed by a multi-faith initiative (supported by UNICEF) in India during the COVID_19 response.³

¹ [Call to Action - Uptake of COVID-19 vaccination in Africa.pdf - Google Drive](#)

² [FAITH-SECTOR-COVID-19-MESSAGES.pdf \(nsdcc.go.ke\)](#)

³ [Impact-of-COVID-19-Rapid-Needs-Assessment-for-Religious-and-Faith-Leaders.pdf \(sihl.edu.lk\)](#)

