

Updates from WHO Headquarters

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Outline

1. Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WGIHR) relating to points of entry
2. WHO – ICAO Memorandum of Understanding and workplan



WHO sub-regional POE training, Kazakhstan, 2023



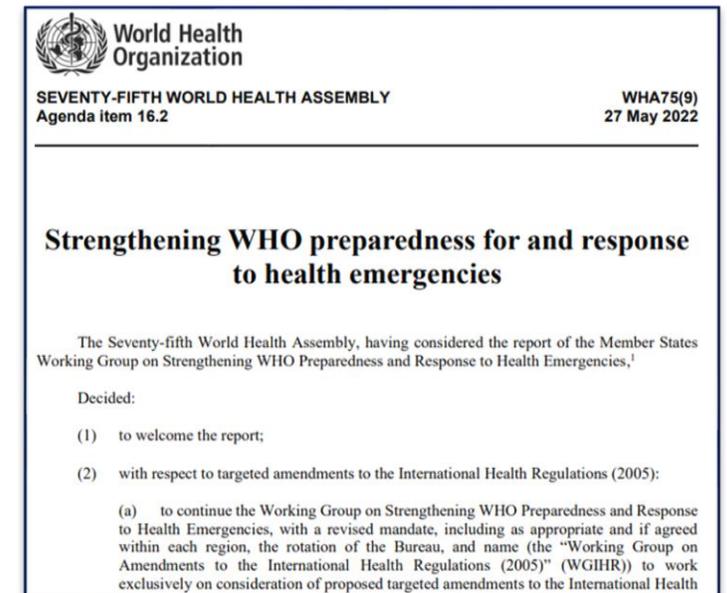
WORKING GROUP ON AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS (2005) (WGIHR)

WGIHR – Member States-led process

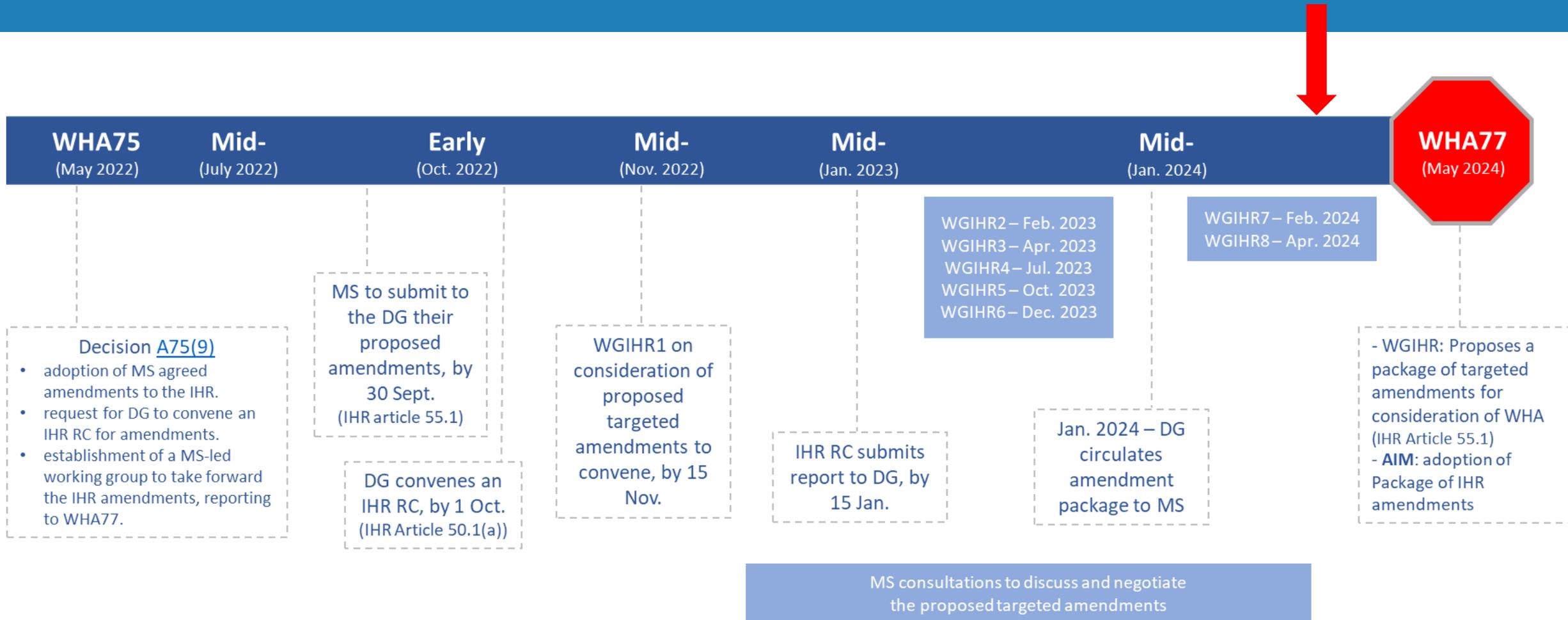
Mandate: to work exclusively on consideration of proposed targeted amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005), consistent with **decision EB150(3) (2022)** [...] for consideration by the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly in 2024.

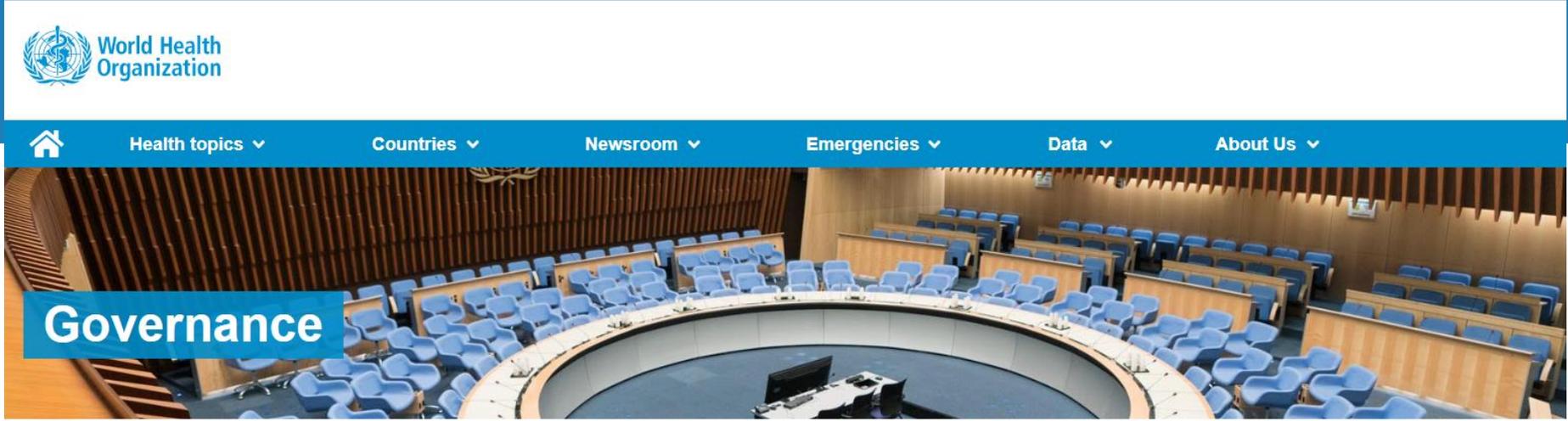
The **WGIHR Bureau** consists of two Co-Chairs and four Vice-Chairs, one from each of the six WHO regions:

- EMR – Dr Abdullah Asiri (Saudi Arabia), Co-Chair
- WPR – Dr Ashley Bloomfield (New Zealand), Co-Chair
- AFR – Dr Sultani Matendechero (Kenya), Vice-Chair
- AMR – Mr Colin McIlff (USA), Vice-Chair
- EUR – Ambassador François Rivasseau (France), Vice-Chair
- SEAR – Ambassador Achsanul Habib (Indonesia), Vice-Chair



WGIHR – timeline





Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005)

<p>> A/WGIHR/8 22-26 April 2024</p>	<p>> A/WGIHR/7 5-9 February 2024</p>	<p>> A/WGIHR/6 7-8 December 2023</p>	<p>> A/WGIHR/5 2-6 October 2023</p>
<p>> A/WGIHR/4 24-28 July 2023</p>	<p>> A/WGIHR/3 17-20 April 2023</p>	<p>> A/WGIHR/2 20-24 February 2023</p>	<p>> A/WGIHR/1 14-15 November 2022</p>

<https://apps.who.int/gb/wgihr/>

- Proposals by 16 States Parties (some on behalf of groups thereof)
- > 300 amendments proposed
 - To 33/66 articles and 5/9 annexes
 - 6 new articles and 2 new annexes

- > Article-by-Article Compilation of Proposed Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) submitted in accordance with decision WHA75(9) (2022)
- > Proposed Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) submitted in accordance with decision WHA75(9) (2022) (Original language version of amendments as proposed by each Member State)
- > Proposed Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) submitted in accordance with decision WHA75(9) (2022)
- > Reference document: proposed amendments and technical recommendations
- > Read more about the WGIHR

WGIHR – status of WGIHR work

Last meetings ahead of 77th WHA on 27 May – 1 June 2024:

- **WGIHR8, 22-26 Apr 2024**
- **INB9 resumed session, 29 April – 10 May**



Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WGIHR)

Proposed Bureau's text for Eighth WGIHR Meeting, 22–26 April 2024

17 April 2024

Additions to and deletions of the current IHR text appear in bold and strike-through respectively.

WGIHR – challenges

- Volume of proposed amendments to be considered
- Interlinkages between proposals and/or additional existing provisions requiring conforming amendments
- Different degree of advancement in negotiating the text of different groups of articles
- Parallel processes to deliver Pandemic Agreement and amended IHR by same date, 77th WHA, May 2024
 - Breadth of the content – COVID-19 pandemic drive vs future proofing drive
 - Some topics are complex and, in some cases, politically sensitive
 - Distribution of topics and articulations across the two instruments
 - Negotiating strategy of Member States' Delegations, incl. entrenched positions
 - Mis- and dis-information about the processes
- Risk to undermine the integrity of the IHR as universal instrument

WHO – ICAO MOU AND WORKPLAN

ICAO and WHO heighten their public health emergency partnership



Montréal, 13 December 2022 – A new agreement between ICAO and the World Health Organization (WHO) will support the use of evidence-informed and risk-based approaches to international travel, both in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and other potential public health emergencies.

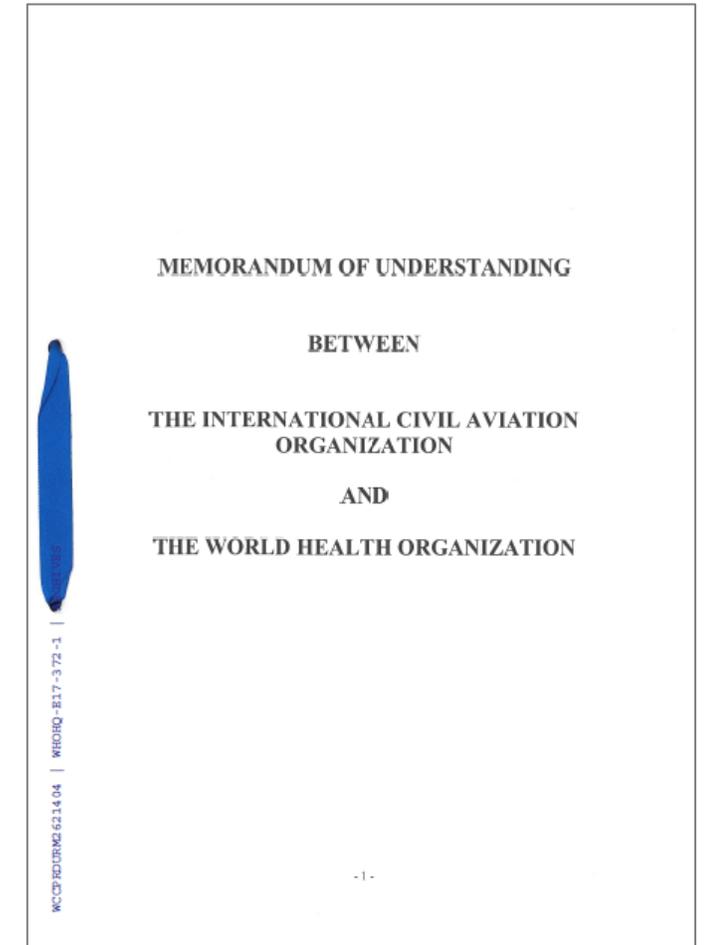
Signed by ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar and WHO Director General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the agreement calls for the two United Nations bodies to further maintain and strengthen their cooperation on the provision of advice and assistance to Member States and industry stakeholders on policy and technical matters, in accordance with their respective mandates.

"The WHO has been collaborating with ICAO on public health matters in civil aviation for decades, including in the context of its *Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation* (CAPSCA) implementation support programme established in 2009. This collaboration has intensified since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic within the framework of the UN-wide response," remarked Secretary General Salazar. "It builds on our successful cooperation within the context of the ICAO Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART), which has delivered a harmonized and optimized approach for the safe and resilient restart and recovery of the global flight network."

"The COVID-19 pandemic has been a severe, unprecedented challenge for the aviation industry and the transportation sector as a whole, and shown why strong collaboration between the health and transportation sectors is so important," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. "The transportation

WHO-ICAO Memorandum of Understanding

- **Signed by the Director Generals** of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in **November 2022**.
- Provides a **framework of cooperation and understanding** to facilitate collaboration between the two organizations in the following areas:
 1. Provision of **evidence-informed and risk-based advice** on policy and technical matters related to civil aviation and public health during the preparedness and response to health emergencies.
 2. Joint **advocacy and risk communication** efforts on risk-based approaches to international travel in the context of health emergencies.
 3. Share **information and tools** to facilitate **technical cooperation and risk assessment** efforts in the areas of public health and civil aviation.



WHO-ICAO MoU workplan

A **joint workplan** is under development to facilitate and monitor the implementation of this MoU, with **global and regional activities** being discussed in relation to the following areas:

1. Legal and policy framework
2. Advocacy and coordination
3. Development of guidance and tools
4. Technical assistance, operational and capacity-building support to countries



SimEx at Kilimanjaro airport, Tanzania, 2022

THANK YOU

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