



Interactive Multi-stakeholder Hearing as part of the preparatory process toward the High-level meeting on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response

United Nations Headquarters, New York | May 9, 2023

Dear colleagues,

We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this important multi-stakeholder hearing. As an academic research institution focused on global health governance, we believe it is crucial to ensure the inclusion and participation of civil society in these decision-making processes and we express our appreciation at this opportunity. We would like to emphasize three points.

Firstly, we are at a critical moment, with the upcoming deadline of May 2024. Strong political will, compromise and commitment are needed. We hope that the high-level meeting will lead to continued political attention at the highest level to support and complement the ongoing processes in the World Health Organization. We have a historical opportunity to ensure greater coherence and coordination across the UN system, at the national and international levels, and to address the fragmentation that currently exists in PPR.

Secondly, we call for a holistic and ambitious approach to international rule-making that considers the multi-sectoral nature of pandemics. While developing a new pandemic instrument, we need to look beyond the health sector to ensure that rules in other areas, such as environment, trade, intellectual property, migration and travel regimes, are coherent with the health objectives and overarching principles. All PPR rules must also be grounded in respect for human rights.

Finally, we urge all Member States and stakeholders to prioritize and commit to adequate, reliable financing for PPR, with contributions appropriate to each countries' level of economic development. Without this, the pandemic instrument and revised International Health Regulations risk being just words on a page.

The High-Level Summit is an opportunity to realize these three imperatives: mobilizing political will to reach an agreement on international rules for PPR; promoting a whole-of-society approach; and ensuring sufficient financing to make these words a reality. We cannot afford to waste this opportunity.

Thank you.

As delivered on May 9, 2023 in New York by Adam Strobeyko