



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

# 147th IPU Assembly

Luanda, Angola  
23–27 October 2023



## IPU-WHO Joint Workshop

### *Unpacking the development of the Pandemic Accord*

Thursday, 26 October 2023, 09:30 – 11:00  
Tenda 2, ground floor

#### Concept note

##### **Background:**

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the many flaws in the global system to protect people from pandemics. It has exposed the gaps in national, regional and global preparedness and response systems, but also allowed for the identification of opportunities to strengthen the international health architecture.

At the Special Session of the World Health Assembly held in December 2021, Member States of the World Health Organization (WHO) took the decision to establish the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB), representing all regions of the world, to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (Pandemic Accord).

The main goal of the Pandemic Accord, rooted in the WHO Constitution, would be to foster a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to strengthen national, regional and global capacities and resilience to future pandemics. Negotiations by WHO Members States are currently on-going, and the INB is mandated to submit its outcome for consideration by the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly in May 2024.

Parliamentarians will play an important role in fostering ownership and transparency of the Pandemic Accord, ensuring alignment with the needs of diverse communities and countries worldwide to address specific health disparities, cultural sensitivities and regional variations.

Furthermore, parliamentarians' active engagement and advocacy will help to raise awareness on the importance of global health cooperation and will contribute to foster a sense of shared responsibility in tackling pandemics, leading to a healthy, safe and just world.

##### **Focus:**

This awareness raising workshop will provide a deeper understanding of the current discussions around the strengthening of the global health architecture.

It will offer a comprehensive understanding of the key elements, scope, potential implications and benefits of the Pandemic Accord, explain the roles of different stakeholders, including the key role of parliamentarians, and foster dialogue among parliamentarians to share perspectives, concerns and ideas.

E

#IPU147

**Provisional programme:**

09:30–9:45	Welcome and introduction: Lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic and the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) process
09:45–9:55	The INB Bureau's perspective
09:55–10:15	Panel discussion: Parliamentary perspectives on strengthening the global health architecture
10:15 – 10:55	Interactive discussion
10:55 – 11:00	Conclusion