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refer to: GBS W3/87/1(WHASS2)

Your reference:

The Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) presents his compliments to the non-State actors in official relations with WHO and has the honour to refer to decision WHA74(16) which requests the Director-General to convene a special session of the World Health Assembly in November 2021, and to include on the agenda of the special session only one item, dedicated to considering the benefits of developing a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response with a view towards the establishment of an intergovernmental process to draft and negotiate such a convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response, taking into account the report of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies.

The second special session of the World Health Assembly will open at 10:00 (CET) on 29 November and close no later than 1 December 2021.

In light of the current global situation, and following a decision taken by the Executive Board through a written silence procedure, the special session of the World Health Assembly will be held using a hybrid format. In this regard, up to two delegation members from each Member State may be physically present at WHO headquarters (either in the meeting room or in an overflow room); other members of Member State delegations, as well as delegations of Observers, the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, and non-State actors in official relations with WHO may participate through the virtual meeting platform. Details for accessing the virtual platform will be provided following completion of the registration process.

Registration can be initiated as of **15 November 2021** by going to the following link: <https://extranet.who.int/bpmext/meetingregistration.aspx>, using the following username: whauser, and password: V>e%xu=sa@070D0C9F99.

Instructions for online registration are available for downloading from the Governance website ([https://apps.who.int/gb/gov/en/registration\\_en.html](https://apps.who.int/gb/gov/en/registration_en.html)).

The provisional agenda for the second special Health Assembly is available in document SSA2/1 (draft) ([https://apps.who.int/gb/e/e\\_whassa2.html](https://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_whassa2.html)).

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Documents for the second special session of the Health Assembly can be accessed on the Internet through the WHO website (<https://apps.who.int/gb/gov/>), as they become available.

The Director-General of the World Health Organization takes this opportunity to renew to the non-State actors in official relations with WHO the assurance of his highest consideration.

GENEVA, 16 November 2021

## REGISTRATION

Online registration is required for both the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly and the online registration system will be available as of **15 November 2021**.

Before each meeting, an invitation will be sent to Member States indicating a link to access the electronic Governing Bodies Meeting Registration System in order to register one Focal Point at the Permanent Mission in Geneva, who will be responsible for registering the delegation. Member States without a Permanent Mission in Geneva should designate a Focal Point in the capital. The same process will apply to all categories of invited participants (the United Nations, Observers, Intergovernmental Organizations and non-State actors in official relations with WHO).

Once a Focal Point has been entered into the registration system, he/she will receive by email a unique username and password, and the link to access the registration system.

The Focal Point will register and submit the names and titles of the delegates and attach a note verbale (credential) containing the composition of the delegation.

The WHO Office of Governing Bodies will verify the information received from the Focal Point, which will then be submitted into the registration system to generate the List of Participants and send the log in details to access the virtual meeting.



# **Draft provisional agenda**

## **PLENARY**

### **1. Opening of the Health Assembly<sup>1</sup>**

#### 1.1 Adoption of the agenda and timetable

Documents SSA2/1, SSA2/1 Add.1 and SSA2/2

#### 1.2 Credentials

### **2. Consideration of the benefits of developing a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response with a view towards the establishment of an intergovernmental process to draft and negotiate such a convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response, taking into account the report of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies**

Documents SSA2/3 and SSA2/4

### **3. Closure of the Health Assembly**

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<sup>1</sup> During the opening of the second special session of the Health Assembly, Member States will also be invited to consider the adoption of special procedures.