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**Intergovernmental Meeting on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness: Sharing of Influenza  
Viruses and Access to Vaccines and other Benefits**

**Report [on progress to date]**

1. The resumed session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness: Sharing of Influenza Viruses and Access to Vaccines and other Benefits (IGM) was held in Geneva, from 8-13 December 2008. Ms Jane Halton (Australia), Chair of the IGM, presided over the resumed session. Participants included delegates from over one hundred Member States, one regional economic integration organization, two invited observers and representatives from United Nations Specialized Agencies and non-governmental organizations in official relations with WHO.
2. The IGM elected Dr J.L. Valdespino (Mexico) as Vice-Chair.
3. The Director-General delivered opening remarks.
4. The Chair provided an update of the process to date, and the IGM agreed, upon the recommendation of the Open-Ended Working Group, to use the Chair's Text (A/PIP/IGM/WG/6) as the basis for its work.
5. The IGM expressed appreciation for the work undertaken with respect to the Chair's Text by the Chair and the five Vice-Chairs: Mr A. Dick (Timor Leste), Dr J.L. Valdespino (Mexico) taking the seat vacated by Dr E. Palacios (Mexico), Mr K. Ahmadi (Iran), Dr A. Nasidi (Nigeria) and Ms S. Hodne Steen (Norway).
6. The IGM decided to establish two working groups and agreed that Working Group A, with Ms Hodne Steen as Chair, would consider Sections 5, 6 and Annex 1 of the Chair's Text, and that Working Group B, with Dr A. Nasidi as Chair, would consider Section 7 and Annexes 2 and 3 of the Chair's Text.
7. The Secretariat provided presentations on progress to date regarding
  - (a) the Advisory Mechanism;

- (b) the Influenza virus traceability mechanism;
- (c) progress on implementing strategies identified under the Global Action Plan to increase supply of pandemic vaccine (GAP);
- (d) establishment of the international stockpile of H5N1 vaccines; and
- (e) antiviral stockpiles.

8. The Secretariat presented recommendations regarding the H5N1 Stockpile and reported on the work being undertaken by the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunizations (SAGE) on behalf of its H5N1 Working Group Chair Dr. Supamit Chunsuttiwat (Thailand).

9. Professor Bruno Lina, Chairman of the Advisory Group established by the Director-General in accordance with the Interim Statement of the IGM, provided an oral report of the meeting of the Advisory Group held on 21 October 2008. The report of the meeting is contained in A/PIP/IGM/8 Annex 2.

10. The IGM opened discussions of sections 1-4 of the Chair's Text and made progress in further developing the text. The Working Groups then convened their meetings.

11. Working Group A made progress on section 5 and 6 of the Chair's Text.

12. Working Group B reviewed and reached general agreement on section 7 and prepared for consideration by the plenary the following documents, attached as Appendices A-C:

- (a) Terms of Reference for the Advisory Mechanism/Group; and
- (b) Guiding Principles for the development of terms of reference for [WHO Network] laboratories for H5N1 and other influenza viruses with human pandemic potential.

12 *bis*. The IGM agreed that Member States are committed to share, on an equal footing, H5N1 and other influenza viruses with human pandemic potential and the benefits, considering these as equally important parts of the collective action for global public health.

13. The IGM decided to:

Suspend the IGM and reconvene in connection with the 62<sup>nd</sup> WHA

Acknowledge the need to have informal consultations among interested Member States and relevant regional economic integration organizations in the intersessional period, using all possible fora, in order to find ways and means to resolve the remaining issues.

Request the Chair and bureau to facilitate such consultations.

Request the Director-General to undertake, taking into account the revised IGM Text, and if necessary with the advice of the Advisory Group, the following preparatory work:

- To further develop the traceability mechanism;
- To prepare the detailed terms of reference of WHO Collaborating Centers on Influenza, the WHO H5 Reference Laboratories, Essential Regulatory Laboratories, and the National Influenza Centers, following the guiding principles included the IGM Text;
- To prepare a revised version of the technical part of the SMTA, following the agreed principles of the IGM Text;
- To prepare a report identifying the needs and priorities for each of the benefits listed in Section 6 of the IGM Text, in particular concerning the vaccine stockpile, as well as options for their financing.

14. The text as developed by the IGM, is attached as Annex 1.

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