

Panel Statement to the Multistakeholder Hearing on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, and colleagues. The Panel is an independent coalition of global leaders committed to strengthening the world's ability to prevent, prepare for, and respond to pandemics, and aligns with the key asks of the Group of Friends of this process. I wanted to hone in on two of those asks in particular: financing, and political support to deliver on new legal commitments.

As we heard this morning, PPPR is an investment, not a cost. And yet domestic PPPR investment is under prioritized, and international financing falls far short of the estimated \$15 billion a year needed to close global PPPR gaps. We therefore call on UN Member States to:

1. Acknowledge that PPPR is a global public good, the benefits of which extend across borders and accrue to all countries;
2. Encourage the use of innovative financing mechanisms to expand fiscal space for PPPR investments for countries facing debt distress; and
3. Most importantly, strengthen financing across three levels. That means:
 - a. Committing to expand domestic investment in PPPR;
 - b. Recognizing the essential role of regional development banks in PPPR financing; and
 - c. At the international level:
 - Expanding support for the Pandemic Fund,
 - Strengthening predictable financing for WHO and its Contingency Fund for Emergencies; and
 - Supporting the operationalization of the Coordinating Financial Mechanism under the amended IHR and Pandemic Agreement.
4. We also need to track the investments that are being made, and what financing is available, particularly for countries experiencing health emergencies. We therefore call on Member States to:
 - a. Establish transparent, disaggregated national mechanisms for tracking PPPR investments; and
 - b. A unified international mechanism for tracing PPPR financing flows.

Over the past two years and in the face of strained geopolitics, the global community adopted two milestone instruments – amendments to the IHR followed by the landmark Pandemic Agreement, with its hard-won, mutually reinforcing provisions spanning prevention, health system strengthening, a suite of provisions enhancing equitable access to countermeasures, and essential governance, financing and implementation mechanisms. The global community now expects countries to deliver on those commitments, and recent outbreaks demonstrate just how urgent that task is.

The Political Declaration should support these processes by:

1. Calling for widespread implementation of the amended IHR;
2. Urging the rapid conclusion of negotiations on the PABS Annex, unlocking the Pandemic Agreement for signature; and
3. Welcoming the adoption of the Pandemic Agreement and working towards its full implementation in even in advance of it coming into force.

Thank you.