MINISTRY OF HEALTH

PUBLIC NOTICE: CALL FOR COMMENTS AND INPUTS ON THE PROPOSAL FOR THE NEGOTIATING TEXT OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) PANDEMIC AGREEMENT

In December 2021, the second special session of the World Health Assembly, through Decision SSA2(5), established an <u>Intergovernmental Negotiating Body</u> (INB) to draft and negotiate a convention, agreement or other international instrument under the Constitution of the World Health Organization (WHO) to strengthen the international legal framework pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. The process is open to all WHO Member States.

Kenya is being represented in the INB by an Inter-ministerial Negotiating Committee that is coordinated by the Ministry of Health. It comprises officers drawn from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Ministry of Interior and National Administration, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage, the National Treasury and Economic Planning, the State Law Office and the Office of the Data Protection Commission.

The INB will submit its final outcome (the Pandemic Treaty) to the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly in May 2024. Currently, the INB is reviewing the proposal for the negotiating text of the WHO Pandemic Agreement, and is receiving inputs from Member States and stakeholders through meetings, drafting groups, as well as informal discussions and briefings.

The Ministry therefore invites relevant stakeholders, members of the public, and all interested parties, to provide inputs and comments on **the proposal for the negotiating text of the WHO Pandemic Agreement,** which will inform the country position for future negotiations. The draft Text can be found on the link https://apps.who.int/gb/inb/pdf_files/inb7/A_INB7_3-en.pdf.

The comments, inputs or memoranda thereof from the general public may be forwarded to the Principal Secretary State Department of Public Health & Professional Standards, Ministry of Health, P. O. Box 30016-00100, Nairobi or hand-delivered to the Office of the Principal Secretary, Afya House, or emailed to <u>pandemic.treaty@health.go.ke</u> to be received 5th March 2024.

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