

Universal Health & Preparedness Review (UHPR) Global Peer Review Phase Frequently Asked Questions

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1. What is the value added by the UHPR global peer review phase?

The UHPR global peer review phase is at the core of the mechanism's value add. The global peer review phase shall help strengthen health emergency preparedness capacities by encouraging cooperation, solidarity, accountability, and the sharing of best practices through an interactive dialogue between Member States.

2. Why is WHO planning to pilot the global peer review phase?

The UHPR global peer review phase represents the final stage of the UHPR cycle. To date, 5 countries (Central African Republic, Iraq, Portugal, Sierra Leone and Thailand) have completed the first part of the UHPR process by piloting the UHPR national review phase. Piloting the global peer review phase will allow these Member States to conclude their UHPR pilot cycle. It will also provide the first opportunity for all Member States to see in practice how the UHPR phases work together to add value to the existing global health architecture. Learnings from the first pilot of the global peer review phase will be documented and shared with all Member States.

In addition, learnings from this first experience will be critical to Member States in informing discussions as part of the INB and IHR Working Group, which are both currently considering the UHPR.

3. Which Member States will be involved in the pilot of the global peer review and how were they selected?

For the first pilot of the UHPR global peer review, Member States who have currently completed a UHPR national review pilot have the opportunity, on a voluntary basis, to participate in the global peer review phase – as either the Member State under review or as part of the Member State peer review panel.

All Member States will be given the opportunity to submit written submissions to the global peer review phase. Submissions can be in the form of (1) questions, (2) recommendations or (3) observations on the national report provided by the Member State undertaking the review.

4. How will other Member States be involved in the pilot of the global peer review process?

WHO will share the report of the Member States under review with all WHO Member States. All Member States will be given the opportunity to submit written submissions to the WHO Secretariat, which will inform the interactive dialogue between the Member State undertaking the review and the peer review panel. Written submissions will be required to adhere to strict guidelines and deadlines.

All Member States will be invited to observe the UHPR peer review intergovernmental meeting online. Member States will be able to register their attendance at least 1 month ahead of the meeting. WHO will notify all Member States on the opening of registrations by email and on the UHPR website.

5. Will there be an opportunity for Member States to provide feedback on the global peer review pilot?

All Member States are being consulted on the proposed working methods of the global peer review pilot and have the opportunity to provide feedback on the design of the mechanism and pilot process. The last Member State consultation on the proposal was on 3 July 2023.

6. What information will member states need to provide for the global peer review phase?

The peer review will be based on the UHPR national report. The national report is developed as part of the UHPR national review phase. In addition, the global peer review phase shall also consider written inputs from all Member States and other stakeholders.

7. How long will the global peer review meeting take for each participating member state?

The global peer review meeting is currently proposed to be organized in two rounds of questions and answers and take approximately 2.5 hours in total for each Member State under review. Member States undertaking their review should work closely with the WHO Secretariat in the months prior, to prepare for the review.

8. Will the findings of the peer review pilot be made public?

Yes. Recommendations and findings from the UHPR global peer-review pilot will be consolidated into an outcome report by the peer review panel, with the full involvement of the Member State undertaking review. The Member State undertaking the review will have 4 weeks to validate this report by its national authorities. The final report will thereafter be made available on the WHO website in all UN languages.

9. How will feedback and lessons learned from the global peer review pilot be utilized?

WHO is committed to an objective, transparent, responsive and inclusive UHPR process. Feedback and lessons learned from the UHPR global peer review pilot will be analyzed and incorporated into subsequent updates. Learnings from the pilot will be documented and shared with all WHO Member States.

10. What support will be provided to Member States to participate in the global peer review phase?

The global peer review phase is supported and facilitated by the WHO Secretariat. Member States undertaking the review and members of the peer review panel shall receive support from the WHO Secretariat as requested and when necessary.

11. What languages will the first pilot of the UHPR global peer review be conducted in?

For the first pilot of the global peer review phase, the intergovernmental dialogue between Member States will be conducted in English and French, with translation available in all UN languages.

12. Will other stakeholders be able to participate in the UHPR global peer review phase?

The UHPR global peer review phase is an interactive, intergovernmental dialogue between Member States. While other stakeholder groups will not be able to participate in the interactive dialogue, it is currently proposed that they shall be able to register as observers to attend the meeting virtually.

Ahead of the holding of global peer review meeting, WHO shall publish the report of the Member State undertaking the review which will be publicly accessible on the WHO website. Stakeholders will be able to provide written submissions to the UHPR Secretariat for consideration by the UHPR Member State peer review panel. Written submissions will be required to adhere to strict guidelines and shall be made available to all Member States at least 2 months before the peer review meeting.

13. Where can I find more information on the UHPR?

For further information on the UHPR, the UHPR process and documents, please visit our website <https://www.who.int/emergencies/operations/universal-health-preparedness-review>

The WHO UHPR Secretariat can be contacted by email at: UHPR@who.int