

## **Report of the Fourth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Review Committee on the Role of the International Health Regulations (2005) in the Ebola Outbreak and Response**

### **ORGANIZATION AND PROCESS OF THE MEETING**

1. The fourth inter-sessional meeting of the Review Committee took place at WHO headquarters in Geneva, 10-12 February 2016, with the following agenda:

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Interviews with informants
3. Review Committee deliberative sessions

Members participating in the meeting are listed in Annex 1.

### **SUMMARY OF INTERVIEWS**

2. The Review Committee interviewed informants by telephone (except where noted) on 10 February 2016 (see Annex 2 for names and affiliations of informants). Annex 2 also lists informants who were interviewed by members of the Review Committee during the inter-sessional period following its 9-11 December 2015 meeting.

### **SUMMARY OF DELIBERATIVE SESSIONS**

3. During the inter-sessional period, the Chair of the Review Committee provided a progress report on the Committee's work at: i) a WHO Information Session on studies undertaken in response to the Ebola outbreak on 24 January 2016 and ii) the Executive Board's 138th session on 25 January. The Review Committee took account of the comments of the Executive Board and interventions made by Member States, intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations and others in attendance at these two meetings.

4. During its deliberative sessions, the Review Committee discussed a first draft of its report to the World Health Assembly, through the Director-General, with a particular focus on refining its key findings, assessment and recommendations.

5. The Committee agreed a plan for further revision and review of its final report. In the inter-sessional period the Committee will continue its work through teleconference and electronic exchange.

6. The Review Committee will hold a sixth and final meeting 21-24 March 2016. On 21 March, the Review Committee will present its draft findings and recommendations to States Parties and invited intergovernmental organizations and nongovernmental organizations. The Review Committee will continue in deliberative sessions 22-24 March.

7. The Review Committee plans to present a final report to the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly, through the Director-General, in May 2016.

8. The Committee discussed and endorsed the meeting report.

**Members participating in the Fourth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Review Committee  
on the Role of the International Health Regulations (2005)  
in the Ebola Outbreak and Response<sup>1</sup>**

Dr Preben Aavitsland  
Chief Municipal Medical Officer of Arendal City, Norway

Dr Salah T. Al Awaidy  
Communicable Diseases Advisor in Health Affairs, Ministry of Health, Muscat, Oman

Dr Hanan Balkhy  
Executive Director of Infection Prevention and Control Department, Ministry of National Guard,  
King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Dr Marion Bullock DuCasse  
Chief Medical Officer, Jamaica

Professor Rupa Chanda  
Economics & Social Sciences Faculty, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB),  
Bangalore, India

Mr Andrew Forsyth  
Team Leader, Public Health Legislation & Policy, Ministry of Health, New Zealand

Professor Didier Houssin  
President of the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety,  
Paris, France

Mr John Lavery, Executive Director of Health Emergency Management British Columbia  
(HEMBC), Vancouver, Canada

Lieutenant-General Louis Lillywhite, Senior Research Consultant at the Centre for Global Health  
Security, The Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House), London, UK

Dr Brian McCloskey, Director of Global Health. Public Health England, London, UK

Professor Babacar Ndoeye  
Expert-consultant and trainer in hospital hygiene, infection control and patient safety, Dakar,  
Senegal

Professor Helen Rees  
Executive Director of the Wits Reproductive Health and HIV Institute of the University of  
Witwatersrand (Wits) in Johannesburg, South Africa

Professor Samba O. Sow  
Director General of the Center for Vaccine Development, Ministry of Health, Mali

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<sup>1</sup>The following Review Committee members were unable to attend: Dr Supamit Chunsuttiwat, Senior Medical Officer, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, Nonthaburi, Thailand; Professor Thomas Cottier, Emeritus Professor of European and International Economic Law, University of Bern, and Senior Research Fellow and Former Managing Director at the World Trade Institute, Switzerland; and Ms Karen Tan, Senior Director at the Ministry of Communications and Information, Singapore.

**Interviews conducted during the Fourth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Review Committee on the Role of the International Health Regulations (2005) in the Ebola Outbreak and Response**

**Mr Pallava Bagla**, Science Editor, New Delhi Television; **Dr Bruce Aylward** (in-person), Executive Director *ad interim*, WHO Outbreaks and Health Emergencies Cluster and Director-General's Special Representative for the Ebola Response; **Dr Robert Glasser** (in-person), Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction; **Dr Esperanza Martinez**, Head, Health Unit, Assistance Division, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); **Dr Martin Schuepp**, Operations Coordinator for West Africa, ICRC; and **Dr Tim Evans**, Senior Director, Health Nutrition and Population Global Practice, Health, Nutrition & Population, the World Bank.

**Interviews conducted during the inter-sessional period, December 2015 - January 2016**

**Dr Seth Berkley**, Chief Executive Officer, Global Alliance on Vaccines and Immunizations; **Dr Florence Fuchs**, Coordinator, Capacity Assessment, Development and Maintenance, World Health Organization; **Dr Laurie Garrett**, Science journalist and Senior Fellow United States' Council on Foreign Relations; **Mr John Ging**, Director, Operational Division, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; **H.E. Dr Mustafa Sidiki Kaloko**, Commissioner for Social Affairs, African Union; **Ms Stephanie Nebehay**, Senior Correspondent, Reuters; **Mr Douglas Webb**, Team Leader, Health and Innovative Financing, United Nations Development Programme.