

Agenda Items 15.1/15.2

- 15.1 Strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies
- 15.2 Standing Committee on Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness and Response

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Global Health Council thanks the Board for the opportunity to comment on WHO emergency preparedness and response.

WHO's integral role during the COVID-19 response has proven no alternative organization exists that is as inclusive, transparent, and willing to act equitably.

Given its immense value, WHO must be strengthened and better prepared for future health threats. Thus, WHO and Member States must fully consider recommendations made by independent review panels examining WHO's COVID-19 response. Solutions include: improving global coordination; increasing sustainable financing; investing in more effective surveillance including community health services; addressing upstream drivers of pathogen emergence; and establishing a new Standing Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Response.

WHO and Member States must promote an all-of-society approach to pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response that includes meaningful civil society engagement. Thank you.