

Question of: Preparing for the Next Pandemic

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Co-Sponsored by: Kenya, Iraq, Vietnam, Peru, Malaysia, Chile, Colombia

The General Assembly,

Defining a pandemic as a widespread occurrence of infectious disease worldwide, crossing international borders and affecting a large number of people due to prevalent human-to-human interaction, according to the United Nations,

Having regard for the inherent uncertainty revolving the characteristics and timing of future pandemics,

Reiterating the urgent need to combat and prepare for future pandemics with lessons from previous pandemics such as but not limited to the Novel Coronavirus family,

Establishing the role of strategic stockpiles as a repository for antibiotics, personal protective equipment, vaccines, and antidotes,

Acknowledging the importance of medical stockpile being the backbone of preparation for future pandemics,

Taking into consideration the continual need to renew medical stocks as specialized medical equipments reach expiry dates,

Recalling the global economic crisis as an effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftereffects,

Cognizant that the global economic crisis resulted in dramatically increased global poverty and inequality,

Noting with deep concern the high increase in social media usage during the COVID-19 pandemic,

Expressing concern regarding the spread of excessive information including misinformation in infodemics,

Aware that infodemics lead to distrust in health experts and undermines pandemic response,

Deeply disturbed by the unjust allocation of medical supplies between LDCs and MDCs,

Recognizing the exceptionally vulnerable status of elderly, immunocompromised individuals, and frontline healthcare workers in public health emergencies,

Reaffirming that Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stresses the rights to a decent standard of living, including the access to healthcare and security in the event of sickness,

Reiterating that all member states uphold the purposes and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the General Assembly in 1948,

Noting the recent ability of scientific institutions to rapidly develop new vaccines using progressive technology such as mRNA and protein subunit mechanisms,

Underlining the importance of transparent scientific data sharing and relevant knowledge for diseases across international borders and independent institutions,

1. *Highly encourages* nations to set aside resources for creating and maintaining a stock of medical supplies for future pandemics;
 - a. Putting money into preparing for the next pandemic, even if there are other ongoing health issues to address,
2. *Urges* the nation's government to enhance its healthcare infrastructure and capacity to respond to future pandemics effectively;
 - a. Encourages the government to prioritize the training of healthcare workers, nurses, and support staff to respond to upcoming pandemics effectively;
 - b. Recommends nations to strengthen collaborations with global health organizations to help spread knowledge and resource mobilization during pandemics such as but not limited to:
 - i. World Health Organization,
 - ii. Global Health Council;
3. *Strongly invites* the initiation of volunteer healthcare programs around the issue of medical supplies and lack of medical support for the citizens;
4. *Strongly urges* MDCs to provide support economically to LDCs in regards to medical stockpile through resources such as but not limited to:
 - a. World Health Organization (WHO),
 - b. UNESCO;

5. *Calls upon* nations to impose contingency plans for companies to strengthen their economic resilience by:
 - a. Creating strategies for maintaining company operations during crises,
 - b. Ensuring the ability to adapt and adjust to unexpected events,
 - c. Ensuring that there is a sufficient supply of necessary resources; (Spain)
6. *Encourages* businesses to have alternative and flexible ideas to ensure the business continues and minimize the pandemic's effect on the economy as well as emphasizing economic support in a way that keeps business running and focuses on providing financial assistance for those most affected by job loss.
7. *Requires* the member states to create laws that would provide economic aid and economic endurance to assemble possible future outbreaks;
8. *Further recommends* nations to provide a back up plan in the condition of a unemployment crisis following regulations provided by authentic NGOs such as ILO;
9. *Suggests* the creation of specific platforms and websites to publish accurate information to disprove the spread of false information;
10. *Strongly advises* all member states to enforce inspections of hospitals to ensure that a reasonable amount of medical supplies and supplies are being stocked to prevent issues due to lack of supplies;
11. *Encourages* other nations to donate their vaccine to other, less developed countries;
12. *Urges* member states to increase research about the pandemic crisis and develop new ideas to effectively prepare for future pandemics and enforce them while keeping in mind:
 - a. Prioritization of nations with higher pandemic cases,
 - b. Proper investigation of new strategies towards the crisis and medical records of member states;
13. *Recognizes* the importance of scientific advancements and collaboration among all nations in the preparation for the future pandemic, invites other countries to work collaboratively and share their scientific discoveries in the medical area by:
 - a. Encouraging nations to resort to collaborative efforts,
 - b. Suggesting entities to donate money and vaccines to less developed countries, in order to help them to also prepare for the next pandemic;

14. Strongly urges all member states to provide transparent scientific information and data;
15. Calls upon high-income countries to adjust their national vaccine distribution policies, allocating a certain portion of their vaccine supplies based on ongoing morbidity or mortality rates worldwide;
16. Recommends the creation of a permanent recovery and response trust fund to help address the socio-economic consequences of a pandemic in low and middle income countries;
 - a. Particularly for countries heavily reliant on industries significantly impacted by the effects of a pandemic,
 - b. Similar to the Response and Recovery Trust Fund created by the UN Secretary General in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic,
 - c. To enable a faster response to future pandemics;
17. Encourages nations to prioritize vulnerable groups within countries in the form of allocating medical supplies and care, such as but not limited to:
 - a. Elderly (65 and above),
 - b. Internally displaced people,
 - c. Disabled people;
18. Encourages Member States to take into account the recommendations provided by organizations such as the World Bank and WHO, to ensure development of scientific advancements;
19. Emphasizes the importance of setting aside monetary funds and resources to subsidize industries heavily impacted by necessary government policies in reaction to a pandemic;
 - a. To help mitigate the economic vulnerability in certain sectors during a pandemic,
20. Strongly requiring all member states to require social media platforms use warnings of misinformation on all posted items;
21. Strongly encourages member states promote and enhance communication strategies for a more effective crisis response in ways such as but not limited to:
 - a. Promoting education in media literacy
 - i. Programmes in the school curriculum from ages 9~18 years old,
 - ii. Establishing a group of certified health experts by the WHO,
 - iii. Public health campaigns including news, TV, social media and newsletters,

- b. Advising the improvement of public health knowledge and awareness including but not limited to:
 - i. Vaccination campaigns and addressing controversies apropos to vaccines and safety,
 - ii. Small healthcare programs in school curriculum from ages 6 to 18
 - iii. Basic sanitation,
22. Strongly recommends Member States to provide support for one another by:
- a. Supplying medical resources, such as vaccines,
 - b. Exchanging updated knowledge,
23. Acknowledging the inequalities that can arise in the face of global pandemics:
- a. Strongly recommends limitations should be implemented on the amount of supplies a country can stockpile based on population characteristics, economic stability, and healthcare infrastructure, with factors such as but not limited to:
 - i. Population density
 - ii. Percent of elderly population,
 - iii. Birth rate,
 - iv. GDP,
 - v. Status as an LDC or MDC,
 - vi. Percent of population living below poverty line,
 - vii. Hospitals per capita
 - viii. Quality of healthcare infrastructure,
 - ix. Economic and physical accessibility to adequate healthcare;
 - b. Calls on countries to refrain from stockpiling medical resources which are inaccessible to other nations, such as but not limited to:
 - i. Antibiotics,
 - ii. Antidotes,
 - iii. Antiviral equipment,
 - iv. Virus testing technologies,
 - c. Encourages the WHO to aid in the creation of appropriate and effective facilities to store medical supplies, including that of vaccines, such as:
 - i. The creation of a national medical reserve of medical materials,
 - ii. The implementation of multiple distributions centers through each nation,
 - iii. The creation of a security force, whose roles include, preventing robberies or other security threats to such supplies, as well as ensuring a safe disposal of resources;
24. Strongly urges countries with companies leading in medical supply research and production to regulate the costs of such supplies so that it is realistic for purchase.