

CONSIDERATIONS: INB Modalities Meeting (July 2024) WHO PANDEMIC CONVENTION / AGREEMENT

AHF

GLOBAL PUBLIC
HEALTH INSTITUTE



Civil Society Inclusion is a MUST in Negotiations!

From HIV/AIDS to the COVID-19 pandemic, history has demonstrated the vital role that civil society and other non-government actors play in tackling serious global health crises. Collectively, they bring invaluable experience to the table, serving as subject matter experts, mediators, implementers, and watchdogs. During negotiations, organizations like ours have been vocal allies in the cause of equity and champions for a binding agreement that can empower the world to prevent, prepare for, and respond to future pandemics.

Our participation in the process has faced significant challenges. Since the inception of negotiations, civil society organizations and other non-state actors have experienced restricted involvement in the INB process. Despite being relevant stakeholders, organizations like ours have been largely excluded from observing discussions or providing adequate input. Instead of being part of an official process, we have often had to rely on outdated documents, sporadic interactions with negotiators, or information leaks in the news media—all of which compromise our ability to contribute to this process in a meaningful way.

As such, the AHF Global Public Health Institute joins the Panel for a Global Public Health Convention, the Pandemic Action Network, the Elders, the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB), the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response (IPPPR), Spark Street Advisors, and over [140 civil society organizations](#) that are now calling for the formal inclusion and participation of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in the upcoming INB negotiations. This includes not only participation and consultation, particularly in working groups, but also timely access to relevant documents ahead of meetings.

We, therefore, request that member states:

- 1. Advocate for the formal inclusion of civil society organizations and other non-state actors in all phases of the INB process.**
- 2. Ensure that relevant stakeholders have timely access to all necessary documents and information prior to meetings.**
- 3. Support the establishment of mechanisms that facilitate ongoing and meaningful engagement with civil society and other non-state actors throughout the negotiations.**

We believe these steps are crucial for achieving a robust and equitable pandemic agreement that benefits all. Thank you for your ongoing support.