

## Call for expressions of interest to serve as members of the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB)

**Issued: 11 November 2021**

**Deadline extended to 10 December 2021**

**This is an open call for expressions of interest for individuals to serve as members of the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB).**

The Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB) is an independent body for global monitoring and high-level political advocacy towards the goal of making the world safer from the effects and impact of health crises, and is co-convened by the WHO Director-General and the President of the World Bank. It provides an authoritative, independent, comprehensive, inclusive global mechanism to apprise leaders, key policy makers and the world of system-wide progress towards increased preparedness and response capacity for outbreaks and other emergencies with health consequences.

The GPMB monitors and reports on the state of global preparedness across all sectors and stakeholders, including the UN system, government, nongovernmental organizations and the private sector. The GPMB's scope includes outbreaks, pandemics, and other emergencies with health consequences, but excludes protracted humanitarian crises.

The work of the GPMB is based on the following principles of preparedness:

- *Universality* -- Pandemics and public health emergencies of international concern are transnational events, and measures to address them must encompass all countries, communities and citizens.
- *Solidarity* -- All countries and all stakeholders should share the risks, responsibilities and benefits. Global health security should be based on commonality and solidarity.
- *Equity* -- Equitable access to information and pharmaceutical and nonpharmaceutical interventions is not only a moral necessity but is essential for the control of disease. Failure to ensure equitable access prolongs outbreaks and pandemics, increasing preventable deaths, and contributing to even greater social and economic disruption.
- *People-centred* -- Managing the risk of disease outbreaks, epidemics and pandemics aims to 'protect persons and their property, health, livelihoods and productive assets, as well as cultural and environmental assets, while promoting and protecting human rights'.
- *Multisectoral* -- Public health systems are at the core of health emergency preparedness and response, but preparedness and response also require an all-hazards, multisectoral, coordinated approach that recognizes the links between human, animal and environmental health, and the importance of social protection.
- *Multilateralism* -- Global preparedness is not simply the sum of national preparedness. Preventing, preparing for, detecting and responding to health emergencies requires inclusive

global mechanisms that ensure universal application for the protection of all people of the world from the international spread of disease.

- *Sustainability* -- Preparedness requires sustained political commitment, sustainable systems of prevention, surveillance and response, and sustainable financing for national, regional and global preparedness, including global goods.

More detail on the role and functions of the GPMB can be found in [its terms of reference](#) and its [2021-2023 Strategic Plan](#).

The GPMB is hosted by the World Health Organization and its operations follow the Organization's policies and procedures.

### **Membership profile**

The GPMB comprises 7-20 members with the following profiles:

- *High level experience*: former heads of state/government or senior ministers; former heads of international organizations and INGOs; senior leaders in philanthropy, academia, and civil society; former CEOs in the private sector
- *Influence*: ability to engage national, regional and international leaders across different sectors
- *Expertise*: Health; One Health, animal health and environment; Emergency management; R&D; Finance and economics; Social sciences; Development and equity; Regulatory and legislative frameworks, law, human rights and governance; Data science; Community engagement; Advocacy and communications, including social media, risk communications and infodemics
- *Diversity*: gender parity and geographic parity between global north and south, youth
- *Independence*: authority to speak in personal capacity
- *Capacity*: availability to actively engage in Board meetings and participate collectively and individually in the Board's monitoring, advocacy and communication activities

Members are selected based on their professional expertise and cannot be represented by an alternate attendee. They do not represent governments, commercial industries or entities, research, academic or civil society organizations, or other bodies, entities, institutions, or organizations to which they are affiliated. Members are required to complete a confidentiality undertaking and must be free of any real, potential, or apparent conflicts of interest.

### **Roles and responsibilities of GPMB members**

Members are appointed based on their leadership, reputation, and capacity to perform their functions as a GPMB member, and with a view to ensuring diversity and balance in gender, geography, and sectoral experience. The GPMB's Terms of Reference specify the roles and modalities of membership; members are expected to actively engage in GPMB meetings and to contribute to the GPMB's monitoring, advocacy, and communications activities on the basis of their professional expertise and networks. This includes:

- Participating in GPMB meetings (two in-person meetings per year, as feasible, and bi-monthly teleconferences).
- Contributing to the development of the GPMB's annual report and implementation of the GPMB Monitoring Framework, including providing direction to the Secretariat; participating in thematic

and stakeholder consultations; participating in GPMB thematic working groups; and reviewing documents and drafts.

- Participating in communication and advocacy activities, including contributing to Board statements; participating in bilateral meetings with key stakeholders; speaking at key global events on behalf of the GPMB; including GPMB key messages in relevant speaking engagements, bilateral meetings and events, and social media; giving media interviews; participating in or amplifying the annual report launch via networks; sharing priority GPMB messages through their networks.

GPMB members are not remunerated for their services in relation to their participation in GPMB activities. Travel and accommodation expenses of GPMB members to participate in GPMB meetings are covered in accordance with the applicable policies, rules, and procedures of WHO.

### **How to submit expressions of interest**

To register your interest in being considered for the GPMB, please submit the following documents by **10 December 2021 24:00 CET** to [gpmbmembership@who.int](mailto:gpmbmembership@who.int) using the subject line “Expression of interest for the GPMB”:

- A cover letter, indicating your motivation to apply and how you satisfy the selection criteria (as GPMB members serve in their personal capacity, please do not use the letterhead of your employer);
- Your curriculum vitae; and
- A signed and completed Declaration of Interests (DOI) form for WHO Experts, available at <https://www.who.int/about/ethics/declarations-of-interest>.

All expressions of interest will be treated with strict confidentiality and will be reviewed by a Nomination Committee established by the GPMB. The recommendations of the Nomination Committee will be presented to the Director-General of WHO and the President of the World Bank for consideration in their appointment of co-chairs and members.

If you have any questions on the process for submitting an expression of interest, please contact the GPMB at [gpmbmembership@who.int](mailto:gpmbmembership@who.int)

Selection of co-chairs and members of the GPMB is expected to be completed by late December 2021.