

Statement from the Coalition for Preventing Pandemics at the Source (PPATS) on the WHO Pandemic Agreement

After more than three years of negotiation, Member States of the World Health Organization adopted the [Pandemic Agreement](#) on May 20th 2025 during the 78th World Health Assembly in Geneva.

The Agreement, which governments began negotiating in December 2021 in the aftermath of the acute phase of Covid-19, aims to improve pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response and make the world safer, healthier, and more equitable.

Adoption of this legally-binding Agreement, with its dedicated articles on One Health and pandemic prevention, is a monumental shift in the way countries view and act on pandemics. The Agreement represents a global commitment to improved pandemic governance and, importantly, embraces a holistic approach. Critically, it emphasizes the importance of primary pandemic prevention, obliging countries to address the drivers of zoonotic spillover at the human-animal-environment interface.

Dr. Neil Vora, Executive Director of Preventing Pandemics at the Source, celebrated this news: "This treaty is a massive victory that will improve the health of people today and for generations to come. It is the first binding international agreement that has obligations on spillover prevention. If implemented at a national-level consistent with a One Health approach, it could simultaneously lower the risk of future pandemics while helping to address other existential threats such as climate change and loss of biodiversity. But, this is just the beginning, as it still needs to be ratified to enter into force. Governments, multilateral organizations and civil society should continue to partner together to maximize the Agreement's impact."

The Pandemic Agreement lays a strong foundation for comprehensive and equitable pandemic prevention and offers a robust set of principles and possible approaches. The PPATS Coalition looks forward to working alongside civil society partners, policymakers, and implementers to support the development and implementation of strategies for prevention at source.