

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly: 63/33 Global Health and Foreign Policy

The UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/63/33, operative paragraph 5 "Requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization, and in consultation with Member States, to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, in 2009, a comprehensive report, with recommendations, on challenges, activities and initiatives related to foreign policy and global health, taking into account the outcome of the annual ministerial review to be held by the Economic and Social Council in 2009."

WHO, in close coordination with the office of the UNSG, and in consultation with Member States, has been tasked to take the lead in preparing this report. The core group of seven member countries of the "Foreign Policy and Global Health initiative (FPGH)" that initiated the resolution has offered to assist WHO in facilitating Member State consultations and inputs into the report.

In addition to the background documentation provided on the WHO web site, the following questions, which provide examples of considerations, may be helpful in guiding Member State discussions during the consultation processes.

Issues and challenges

1. What are the key current global health issues which could benefit from an integrated foreign policy-health policy response?
2. What future global health issues would benefit most from an integrated foreign policy-health policy response?
3. What are the current foreign policy issues that could benefit from an integrated foreign policy-health policy response?
4. What future foreign policy issues could benefit most from an integrated foreign policy-health policy response?
5. What are the key challenges to developing a national and/or global integrated foreign policy-health policy response?
6. What are key internal and external strategies, policies, mechanisms, and forums are required to integrate global health considerations as a foreign policy interest?

Initiatives and activities

7. What are the most important initiatives or activities that address or could address and facilitate progress on global health as a foreign policy interest?

8. How are different venues or forums (e.g., bilateral relations, regional organizations, international organizations, other) most productive in pursuing global health considerations as a foreign policy interest?
9. What education, training and tools are required to better manage the relationship between foreign policy and global health including policy formulation and negotiating dynamics?

Recommendations

10. What key global health issues and challenges should be considered for inclusion in the recommendation section of the Secretary-General's report?
11. What key activities and initiatives should be considered for inclusion in the recommendation section of the Secretary-General's report?