Specific proposals on amendments, additions and deletions to the text of the draft overarching framework of engagement with non-State actors

Paragraph 22 should read as follows:

22. Managing conflict of interest and other risks of engagement requires a series of steps, as set out below.
   • WHO needs to know the non-State actors that it engages with. Therefore each non-State actor is required to provide information about itself and its activities, following which WHO and the Member States, through an open-ended group of Member States, conduct the necessary due diligence.
   • WHO and the Member States, through the open-ended group, conduct a risk assessment in order to identify the specific risks of engagement associated with each engagement with a non-State actor.
   • Risks of engagement need to be managed and communicated coherently throughout the Organization. To that end, WHO manages engagement through a single, Organization-wide electronic tool. (2 (footnote))
   • Member States need to exercise oversight over WHO’s engagement with non-State actors. With this in mind, the Director-General reports on engagement involving non-State actors to the World Health Assembly through the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee and makes all engagements publicly known through the register of non-State actors.

Paragraph 27 should read as follows:

27. When the possibility of entering into an engagement is being considered, the open-ended group of Member States, with the advice of the relevant technical units in the Secretariat, conducts an initial examination in order to establish whether such an engagement would be in the interest of the Organization and in line with the priorities defined in the General Programme of Work and Programme budget, the overarching principles of engagement listed in paragraph 6 and the specific provision contained in paragraph 44. If this seems to the case, the Secretariat asks the non-State actor to provide its basic information. Using the Organization-wide electronic tool, the open-ended group of Member States, with the advice of the technical units, then complements this information with a description of the proposed engagement and the assessment of the benefits and risks involved.

Paragraph 28 should read as follows:

28. Before engaging with any non-State actor, the open-ended group of Member States, with the advice of the technical units, conducts due diligence. This refers to the steps taken to find and verify information on a non-State actor and to reach a basic understanding of its profile. While due diligence refers to the nature of the non-State actor concerned, risk
assessment refers to the assessment of a specific proposed engagement with that non-State actor.

Paragraph 31 should read as follows:

31. Due diligence also allows the open-ended group of Member States, with the advice of the technical units, to categorize each non-State actor in relation to one of the four groups of non-State actors on the basis of its nature, objectives, governance, funding, independence and membership. This categorization is indicated in the register of non-State actors.

Paragraph 32 should read as follows:

32. Risks are the expression of the likelihood and potential impact of an event that would affect the Organization’s ability to achieve its objectives. A risk assessment on a proposed engagement is conducted in parallel to due diligence.

Paragraph 33 should read as follows:

33. Risk management concerns the process leading to a management decision on the part of the open-ended group, with the advice the technical units, deciding on entry into engagement, continuation of engagement, engagement with measures to mitigate risks, non-engagement or disengagement from an existing or planned engagement with non-State actors on the basis of an explicit management decision.

Paragraphs 34, 35 and 36 should be deleted.

Paragraph 38 should read as follows:

38. The WHO register of non-State actors is an Internet-based, publicy available tool used by the Secretariat and the Member States to document and coordinate engagement with non-State actors. It contains the main standard information provided by non-State actors and high-level descriptions of the engagement that WHO has with these actors. (2) Non-State actors engaging with WHO are required to provide information on their organization. This information includes: name, legal status, objective, governance structure, composition of main decision-making bodies, assets, annual income and funding sources, main relevant affiliations, webpage and one or more focal points for WHO contacts.

Paragraph 39 should read as follows:

39. When the open-ended group, with the advice of the technical units, decides on an engagement with a non-State actor, a summary of the information submitted by that entity and held in the WHO register of non-State actors is made public by the Secretariat. The accuracy of the information provided by the non-State actor and published in the register is the responsibility of the non-State actor concerned and does not constitute any form of endorsement by WHO.
Paragraph 44 should read as follows:

44. WHO does not engage with the tobacco or arms industries. In addition, WHO will exercise particular caution during the process of due diligence, risk assessment and management of risks with other industries affecting human health or affected by WHO’s norms and standards.

In the draft WHO policies and operational procedures on engagement with nongovernmental organizations, private sector entities, philanthropic foundations and academic institutions, all references to the possibility of WHO’s accepting secondments from the aforementioned non-State actors should be deleted. All such references clearly contradict paragraph 46 of the draft overarching framework of engagement with non-State actors, which stipulates: “46. WHO does not accept secondments from non-State actors.”