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THE WORLD IS BETTER PREPARED TO RESPOND TO COVID-19 BECAUSE OF THE GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY AGENDA

Member Countries and Partners Reaffirm Their Commitment to GHSA 2024

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates how infectious disease outbreaks anywhere can have devastating health, economic, political, and societal consequences worldwide. No country has been untouched by COVID-19 and no country is fully prepared for the next outbreak. The Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) has been at the vanguard accelerating political and multisectoral support for health security preparedness.

Launched in 2014, the GHSA is a multilateral initiative of nearly 70 countries, international organizations, civil society, and private sector partners working together to keep the world safe from infectious disease threats. The GHSA brings together a range of sectors including health, agriculture, finance, and defense to build countries' capacities to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats whether naturally occurring, deliberate, or accidental.

The GHSA Steering Group reaffirmed its commitment to GHSA 2024 – the initiative's second strategic phase. Members held a series of virtual meetings to discuss concrete actions needed to achieve the GHSA 2024 target of more than 100 countries with strengthened health security capacities by 2024. The GHSA Steering Group has pledged to place the highest priority on combatting the spread of COVID-19 and mitigating its health, social, and economic impacts.

“Pandemics can be prevented,” stated National Institute of Health. “International collaboration is needed now more than ever for to achieve and sustain critical global health security capacities to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on lives and on our economy now, and to prevent emerging disease threats from becoming crises in the future.”

To read the **Joint statement** of GHSA SG please click on below link.

<https://www.nih.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/GHSA-SG-joint-statement-final-version.pdf>