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# Meeting Report

Sixth Meeting of the Panel  
14, 15 and 22 April 2021



## Meeting Summary

The Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response met virtually for its sixth meeting on 14 and 15 April, with a third day on 22 April to finalise the report and recommendations.

The Independent Panel was initiated by the Director-General of the World Health Organization pursuant to World Health Assembly Resolution WHA73.1. In July 2020 the Director-General requested the former Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Right Honourable Helen Clark, and the former President of Liberia, Her Excellency Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, to be Co-Chairs of the Panel, for which they then selected 11 panellists. The first meeting of the Panel was held on 17 September 2020, the second meeting on 20 – 21 October 2020, the third meeting on 16-17 December 2020, the fourth meeting on 9-10 February 2021 and the fifth meeting on 17-18 April. The Panel Co-Chairs presented the interim report of the Panel, [the Second Report on Progress](#), to the meeting of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization on 19 January 2021.

President Sirleaf opened the 6<sup>th</sup> Panel meeting and set the tone, noting both the optimism COVID-19 vaccines are providing and the current resurgence of the virus in many countries, underscoring that we are still losing more than 10,000 people every day to this pandemic. Prime Minister Clark recapped the gaps the Panel have found and that, with the evidence gathered, the Panel is now in a position to recommend ways to end the current pandemic and prevent an outbreak from becoming a pandemic in the future. (Read the Co-Chairs full remarks [here](#))

Panel members were provided with drafts of the final report and recommendations. Together with the secretariat, they worked to refine and finalise these over the three days of meetings. The secretariat, between sessions, worked to provide revised drafts to Panel members. Having taken on-board the Panel's final comments, a final draft taking into account wording suggestions will be completed over the following week.

Plans for the launch of the report and ongoing political outreach were presented to the Panel. The secretariat outlined the support available to panellists ahead of the launch as well as opportunities to engage in outreach activities.

The main report and background papers, which will take into account comments by the Panel at this meeting, will be launched the week of 10 May 2021, with subsequent presentation by the Co-Chairs to the 74<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly, which begins 24 May.

President Sirleaf and Prime Minister Clark closed the meeting by thanking the Panel for their hard work over the previous months and expressing wishes that they would all be able to meet in person in the future. The Panel in turn thanked the secretariat for their extraordinary efforts and confirmed their commitment both to finalising the report and recommendations, and to ensuring that the findings are taken up to prevent future pandemics.

## Meeting Agenda

Wednesday 14 April

12.00 – 12.10	Welcome remarks by Co-Chairs and introduction into the agenda
12.10 - 12.15	Report of the 5 <sup>th</sup> Panel Meeting
12.15 – 13.15	1 <sup>st</sup> Draft Main Report Outline
13.15 – 14.15	Recommendations
14.15 – 14.30	Summary of the day

Thursday 15 April

12.00 – 12.10	Recap of Day 1
12.10 – 14.30	Further discussion of recommendations

Thursday 22 April

13.30	Recap of Day 2
12.30 – 14.30	Further discussion of main report
14.30 – 15.30	Recommendations
15.30 – 15.45	Communications and outreach
15.45 – 16.00	Conclusion of final Panel meeting

## List of Participants

### Co-Chairs

HE Ellen Johnson Sirleaf  
Rt Hon. Helen Clark

### Panel Members

Mauricio Cárdenas  
Mark Dybul  
Michel Kazatchkine  
Joanne Liu  
Precious Matsoso  
David Miliband  
Thoraya Obaid  
Preeti Sudan  
Ernesto Zedillo  
Zhong Nanshan  
Aya Chebbi

### Secretariat

Anders Nordström  
Salma Abdalla  
Michael Bartos  
Michael Dumiak  
Mathias Bonk  
Celeste Canlas  
Mike Kalmus Elias  
Marjon Kamara  
Helena Legido-Quigley  
Shun Mabuchi  
Christine McNab  
Rosemary McCarney  
Alexandra Phelan  
Jane Saville

### Advisors

Sudhvir Singh, Advisor to Rt Hon. Helen Clark  
George Kronnisanyon Werner, Advisor and Coordinator to HE Ellen Johnson Sirleaf