

Global Guidance Framework on Responsible Life Sciences and Foresight Activities

Biological Weapons Convention – Meetings of Experts 2020
1-2 September 2021

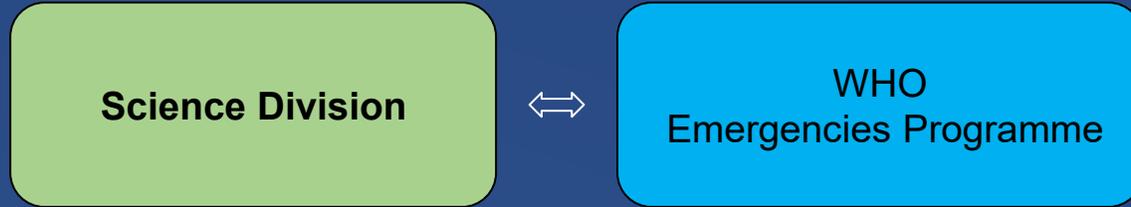
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**World Health
Organization**

WHO departments involved



Departments



Units

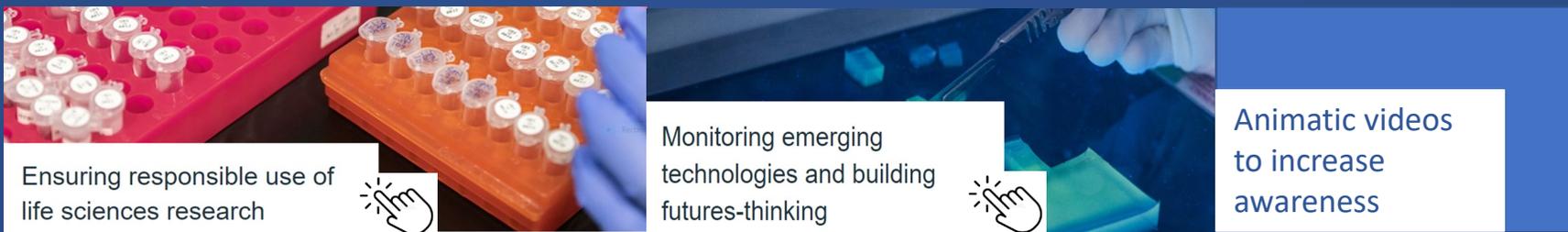


Our areas of work

Horizon Scanning
and Foresight
function

Global Guidance
Framework on
Responsible use of
Life Sciences

Collaboration and
engagement with
multiple
stakeholders



UN Biorisk working groups Activity 1 mapping exercise

WHO Foresight Function

Early
identification
of issues

Applications of **life sciences &
other technologies**

*Convergences
Digitalisation and AI
Materials science (e.g. nanotech)*

Various
methods

Expert consultations
Delphi studies, Horizon scans
Inclusivity

Relevant at all
levels of the
organization

Member states
Regional
Global

- *inform decision making*
- *scope and frame development needs*
- *identify emerging problems & challenges*

*“...informed by
developments at the
frontier of new scientific
disciplines ...which pose
transformational
opportunities but also
risks to global health...”*

WHO's 13th Programme of Work (2019-2023)

Development of a global guidance framework on responsible life sciences

Dialogues

Three DUR/C dialogues (2020)

- Academies and Council
- Science editors and Publishers
- Research donors

Consultative meetings

Over 60 multidisciplinary stakeholders around the globe at all levels including rep. UN entities (2021)

- 1st consultative meeting (March)
- Three working groups – over 25 meetings (Jun – Aug)
- 2nd consultative meeting (Sept)
- *will continue*

Thematic working groups

Public consultations



25 June 2021 | Departmental news

Multidisciplinary stakeholders convened in a WHO virtual consultative meeting on a Global Guidance Framework to Harness the Responsible Use of the Life Sciences

Thematic working groups

Working group 1

13 members

Identify **principles and values** that should underpin the global guidance framework and guide policies

Working group 2

16 members

Identify challenges and recommendations on **tools and mechanisms** to address the risks of accidents and of misuse in the life sciences

Working group 3

18 members

Identify challenges and recommendations for **raising awareness, education, capacity building and engagement activities**

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