

Assemble Expertise – Global hub for gathering, analyzing, and disseminating health data and advice.

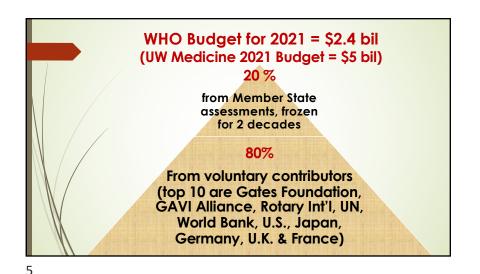
 Set Agenda/Focus International Attention – (e.g. importance of female education for health & health care as a human right) and alert members of Public Health Emergencies of International Concern (PHEICs)

 Coordinate & Convene – Bringing governments, civil society, philanthropists, and others together to shape policy & act in concert

 Political Forum – As governments seek to advance their interests (e.g. Ebola in Africa)

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Lessons from SARS Outbreak 2003 – As unofficial news of a new contagion was killing people in China, Chinese government issued denials of information and access. Despite WHO authority limited by International Health Regulations (IHR) to cholera, plague, and vellow fever, WHO leaders launched a "naming and shaming" campaign to force China to own up. ■ 2005 – IHRs amended to authorize such "SARS shaming" when governments are non-compliant, yet avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade PHEICs ISSUED 6 times: 2009 - H1N1 2014 - Polio 2014 - Fbola **2015 – Zika 2018** − Ebola ₽ 2020 - COVID

TMELINE OF WHO ALERTS ON COVID-19 Dec 31 - WHO receives unofficial Jan 3 - China officially Jan 9 - WHO & China notifies WHO of outbreak agree this is a new virus reports & requests info from China Jan 30 📳 Feb 21 Feb 28 WHO issued its first WHO raised the risk advisory on the novel coronavirus, in a bid to help national authorities Emergency Committee said the event did not constitute a PHEIC emphasized that the window of opportunity to contain the outbreak is assessment of the coronavirus from "high" to "very high" across the world against the enforcement of travel or trade Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus declared the 2019-nCoV outbreak (1) identify primary loopholes, (2) perform risk assessments, (3) plan for Public Health Emerge "narrowing" and that the international community grappling with COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern needs to ramp up efforts Jan 28 - Tedros Jan 12 - China shares genome with WHO ommit to making Margaret Harris said the US has the potential to be the warned the nande called on G20 leader urveillance for unusual outbreaks of influenza-like liness and severe and communities that the COVID-19 vailable all necessary esources to combat spread of this virus can be significantly slowed or ever reversed with the ignite against COVID-19 COVID-19 with next epicenter amic neumonia, and monitor minimum delay, and ensure the effective a rapid acceleratio of cases across the carefully the evolution of COVID-19 outbreaks, implementation of robust and efficient function forcing epidemiologica of supply chains of cross-border medical Mar 23 Mar 24 Mar 26 Mar 16 Feb 29

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Assessment of WHO's Covid Response

Information Sharing - Data dashboard on case counts, near-daily press briefings largely appreciated

Technical Guidance - Mixed reviews; Experts seen as:

Slow in determining method of transmission

Slow in advising mask-wearing for fear of giving false sense of security and thus not follow social distancing & washing

Assistance to Global South - WHO appeals to members for funding for crucial medical equipment & diagnostics fell far short, thus appeals to individuals → \$233 mil (\$55 mil from Lady Gaga)

Coordination - Access to Covid-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT) to speed up research & treatment tools; COVAX for production & distribution of vaccines (pooled procurement mechanism). Coordination requires

players to be willing to be directed.

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Potential for WHO Reform

Revising the International Health Regulation (IHR) – First time members have considered since SARS.

- More Carrots & Sticks to ensure compliance
- More/Stable Financing to empower authority
- PHEIC Designation More Nuanced not binary decision
- IAEA-like Investigative Teams & WTO-like Enforcement
 Mechanisms
- Augment Emergency Committee with Economic & Political Expertise

Governments get what they ask/pay for, not what they need!

Critics of the WHO Covid Response

Politics of Blame – To deflect blame for domestic failures, Donald Trump and administration allies blamed WHO:

- For failing to warn the world early enough
- And its Director-General for being too "China-centric"

Expert's Analysis – Covid response revealed problems:

- WHO has been drained of power and resources
- Left timid and unable to exercise authority to compel China to share information or other governments to act earlier
- Member states get what they pay for/order, not what they need

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