

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

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MEMORANDUM

October 19, 2023

To: Members, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic

From: Select Subcommittee Staff

Re: Hearing on “Reforming the WHO: Ensuring Global Health Security and Accountability”

On Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 10:00 AM ET in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic will hold a hearing titled “Reforming the WHO: Ensuring Global Health Security and Accountability.”

I. BACKGROUND:

The World Health Organization (WHO) is the specialized agency of the United Nations for international public health. Its official mandate is to “act as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work” within the United Nations system. While the WHO has undoubtedly provided significant aid to humanity, there are vulnerabilities and weaknesses within the organization which were exposed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

II. HEARING PURPOSE:

This hearing will examine the WHO and its role in global health security and accountability.

III. WITNESSES:

Atul Gawande, M.D., M.P.H.

Assistant Administrator for Global Health
United States Agency for International Development

John Nkengasong, M.Sc, Ph.D.

Ambassador-at-Large
U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator
Senior Bureau Official for Global Health Security and Diplomacy
Bureau of Global Health Security and Diplomacy
U.S. Department of State

Loyce Pace, M.P.H

Assistant Secretary for Global Affairs
Department of Health and Human Services