



EL MINISTRO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE CHILE

Santiago, May 6, 2020

HE Mr. David Zalkaliani  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

His Excellency,

The COVID-19 crisis has showed us the devastating consequences for health, well-being and security that pandemics represent for our people.

As we do our greatest effort to face this situation, we must recognize that, in this highly interdependent world, with constant changes, global emergencies like this one will become a day to day situation.

History has demonstrated that in order to win this battle and face its social, economic and financial consequences, we must act in an efficient and appropriated way, through coordinated and joint efforts.

Therefore, we must make sure that our health governance instruments are able to respond to multidimensional challenges posed by pandemics.

That is why, Chile has decided to contribute to these efforts by presenting the initiative of a Global Agreement for Multidimensional Preparedness and Response to Pandemics. This instrument is aimed to improve preparedness to face these kind of threats and its consequences.

Acknowledging the leading role of the World Health Organization (WHO) and its International Health Regulations (2005); being conscious of the persistent gaps detected by the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board of the WHO and the World Bank in their 2019 report, we propose that in the framework of the WHO, we move forward to an instrument that accounts for norms, commitments and initiatives in force; that proposes norms in order to strengthen coordination and partnerships and that encourages its fulfillment through an adequate transparency and accountability.

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I am aware that reaching a global consensus in this matter will be a long-term effort which will require the contribution of the whole international community. However, I am sure that with the help of everyone, we will be able to do it.

We are encouraged on this path by the work carried out in the past by the WHO and partners such as the aforementioned International Health Regulations (2005), the WHO framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which was signed by 181 member states and that was the first international public health agreement; the initiative of Healthy Aging Decade 2020-2030, the Global Strategy for Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance and the Global Health Workforce Alliance.

I have instructed the Permanent Representative of Chile to the International Organisms in Geneva to contact the counterpart of your country in the WHO, with the aim of exploring the best way to implement as soon as possible, this proposal, receive your suggestions, and of course, the valuable support of your government.

I take this opportunity to greet you and reiterate the assurances of my highest consideration.

TEODORO RIBERA NEUMANN  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile