

RESOLUTION __/2026

COMMITTEE ON GLOBAL HEALTH LAW

The 82nd Conference of the International Law Association, held in Vienna, Austria, 17-21 August 2026:

HAVING CONSIDERED the Final Report of the Global Health Law Committee;

TAKES NOTE of the Final Report and **COMMENDS** it to all concerned with securing, sustaining and enhancing global public health;

RECOGNISIES the importance of further developing the field of Global Health Law so as to promote the attainment of physical and mental well-being for individuals around the world, including through actions taken by multilateral institutions, governments, private sector actors, foundation, and interest groups;

CONVINCED that the Report identifies major challenges facing the international community in the field of public health and outlines the steps the Committee has taken to help address these challenges;

ENDORSES the recommendations of the Final Report for the activities of the World Health Organization and other international, regional and national institutions with responsibility for protecting and promoting the health of individuals and groups, and;

PROPOSES the following recommendations:

1. Reaffirming a multilateral institutional approach to global public health, including conclusion and ratification of the Pandemic Agreement

Be it hereby resolved that:

The International Law Association encourages WHO Member States to adopt the PABS Annex as soon as possible so as to make it possible to sign and ratify the Pandemic Agreement and bring it into force in a reasonably short time so as to improve global prevention, preparedness and response to future pandemic outbreaks that threaten human life and health, and

The International Law Association further encourages countries that have elected to withdraw from the WHO to rejoin the organization, recognizing that the absence of their substantial financial, R&D, scientific, production and other capacities will limit the effectiveness of the WHO to the detriment of the international community as a whole, including of the withdrawing countries.

2. Reaffirming human rights as the core foundation of global health law - and that the integration between human rights and other areas of global health law deserves ongoing attention.

Be it hereby resolved that:

The International Law Association stresses the importance of health-related human rights as a key foundation of global health law. It urges States to comply with their international obligations under these rights.

3. Assuring that intellectual property rights and rules serve the purpose of encouraging development of new and better medicines while at the same time incorporating safeguards that promote affordability and access

Be it hereby resolved that:

The International Law Association encourages governments to support, financially and otherwise, measures to promote R&D for the development of new and improved pharmaceutical products (including vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics) and other health products, including medical devices.

The ILA further encourages governments to adopt and implement measures necessary to protect the interests of patients/consumers of such products by adopting and implementing guardrails or controls that limit the pricing power of IP owners arising from rights of exclusivity. Such measures are required because patients/consumers of pharmaceutical products are vulnerable as a consequence of medical need. There are different forms that guardrails or controls may take, and the most appropriate form(s) will depend on the particular country and its circumstances, including the presence (or absence) of an R&D based pharmaceutical industry sector and the budgetary limitations that the country and its inhabitants may face.

4. Encouraging states to better coordinate the protection of human, animal and plant health and welfare at national and international level through a “One Health approach” as well as to recognize and address the impact of environmental degradation on those factors and on an increased risk of zoonotic spillover

Be it hereby resolved that:

The International Law Association encourages the Quadripartite Alliance to restate and update their Joint Plan of Action as a guide and blueprint for Member States and other stakeholders and to provide technical assistance that takes into account the inherent complexity of the One Health approach. The International Law Association also encourages States to fully implement the relevant provisions of the Pandemic Agreement and to consider establishing a joint One Health programme among the Quadripartite Alliance as well as other relevant institutions such as primarily the governing bodies of the Biodiversity and Climate Change conventions.

5. While acknowledging the need to address national security concerns, encouraging governments to maintain or increase budget expenditures relating to public health notwithstanding the trend toward increasing military/defense expenditures

Be it hereby resolved that:

The International Law Association strongly encourages states to ensure adequate financial support for public health programs consistent with their human rights obligations under international law

notwithstanding increased military defense spending, recognizing that the ultimate objective of national security is to preserve the health and well-being of the inhabitants of the state.

6. Encouraging states to reinstate foreign aid budgets directed toward LMIC health system support, including for medicines to treat HIV-AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, for which cutbacks have threatened severe consequences for affected individuals.

Be it hereby resolved that:

The International Law Association strongly encourages governments to ensure adequate levels of funding for assistance with procuring treatments and prophylaxis for individuals in low- and middle-income regions in order to protect the human right to life and health of the recipients. The ILA acknowledges that the burden of such financing should be distributed among countries by their capacity to pay and should not be reliant on a single source.

7. Concluding the Mandate and Dissolving the Global Health Law Committee

The 82nd Conference of the International Law Association, held in Vienna, Austria, 17 – 21 August 2026:

ADOPTS the Resolutions accompanying this Report;

REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the International Law Association to forward a copy of these Resolutions to the Director-General of the World Health Organization and other appropriate international and regional organisations,

THANKS the Chairs and Members of the Committee for the valuable work done;

RECOMMENDS to the Executive Council that the Global Health Law Committee be dissolved, having accomplished its mandate over a period of 12 years.