

## **GHTC intervention for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body second round of public hearings on pandemic treaty**

The guiding question of the second round of public hearings was: *“Based on your experience with the COVID-19 pandemic, what do you believe should be addressed at the international level to better protect against future pandemics?”*.

### **GHTC Statement**

The Global Health Technologies Coalition welcomes this opportunity to provide input to the INB through this public hearing.

While we witnessed a great triumph for science when safe and effective COVID-19 tools were developed, we continue to see the enormous failures in ensuring access to these tools for everyone, everywhere. To ensure more equitable health security moving forward, we need a collective approach to advancing research and development of drugs, vaccines, and diagnostics that are fit-for-purpose and deployable to the most remote settings and vulnerable populations. A major part of the response to the massive vaccine inequity we saw during the pandemic was the push to expand and diversify vaccine production capacity to new regions. This means that at the international level we need a pandemic framework that builds on this progress and bolsters local manufacturing and regulatory capacity, strengthens norms and standards that support access and benefit sharing of data related to emerging pathogens, and facilitates research coordination that spurs innovation and the development of, not just vaccines, but a range of new medical countermeasures that are accessible to all who need them.

Global leaders also need to ensure that there is adequate funding address the capacity building needs of lower and middle-income countries, including research capacity. The new pandemic instrument should be coupled with sustainable financing mechanisms, including the newly created financial intermediary fund for pandemic preparedness, to increase surveillance, clinical trial, and manufacturing capacities in LMIC countries.