

CIVICS AND LAW
MONITORING COMMITTEE

To: World Health Organisation

April 13, 2023

Dear Friends,
WGIHR,

Interest of Justice would like to give a friendly update that we are not satisfied with the non-response from our multiple times of contacting WHO in regards to information about the WGIHR from the FOIA department.

Our first request was sent on October 31, 2022.

Ethics then responded on February 22, 2023 with a response that had nothing to do with what was requested.

IOJ responded on February 26, 2023 with a notice of dis-satisfaction, demanding the information due long ago. We have not heard back from FOIA in regards to their error and breach of duty. Here are the presumptions of the withholdings in our February 26, 2023 letter:

Pending Unanswered Questions:

*(The WHO, in being so slow and inefficient, has completely screwed us over and harmed us by denying IOJ our right to communicate with international organizations and to participate in the deign of health policy in a timely manner before all WGIHR deliberations are over and **now we are fully excluded and defenseless, which makes the treaty process void for denying all stakeholders meaningful participation.***

As a result of the withholding of information, IOJ claims we are irreparably injured, denied rights.

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Once again, please EXPEDITE the delivery of the following reiterated information requests and please, we beg, stop playing games because WGIHR only has one more meeting on April 17-20, 2023 and we need to contact them prior to those dates:

W.H.O. REFUSED TO ANSWER: Fifth, Please provide a list of every delegate and their contact information such as email for the 194 nation states regarding IHR amendments and also the Pandemic treaty.

W.H.O. REFUSED TO ANSWER: Sixth, Please provide a list of all members of the WGIHR, the agenda, any associated documents and information of the WGIHR. Also, please provide their contact information.

W.H.O. REFUSED TO ANSWER: Seventh, We have written the INB on multiple occasions and have received no response.

A. Is there a deadline for information requests, to WHO staff for them to respond?

B. Is there a deadline for expedited requests such as this, to WHO staff for them to respond?)
[end]

And today we are writing once again in regards to the WGIHR meeting about to happen on Monday the 17 of April 2023. We are unable to contact the Working Group due to the inefficiency of FOIA refusing to answer most questions, including refusing to provide us any names or contacts for the WGIHR.

The situation of withholding information in our interest is causing us irreparable injury by being denied fundamental rights to information, participation and to communicate with the International Organizations as a vulnerable primary stakeholder who has been excluded from the deliberations on the pandemic treaty and the IHR amendments, despite it being a right and obligation for us to participate in the design of the policies of the International Organizations and States which may affect us and our stakeholders.

How is IOJ supposed to exercise a right when we are refused information needed to exercise our rights to participate? In which, is a right to health and a duty of WHO to comply with and to provide our organization with extra assistance as primary vulnerable stakeholders in “Pandemic Preparedness and Response” as recognized by the INB.

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These are two serious new questions for the FOIA department:

Q1: How do we give effect to the law which says we have a right to participate and to communicate with the International Organizations, when the WHO is inactive and inefficient refusing to answer basic FOIA questions and even refusing to answer multiple complaints in the WHO Ethics office for many months?

Q2: What is the remedy available to us for this injury and omission of WHO to perform the duties of information and participation owed to us as primary vulnerable stakeholders?

Request for assistance: Please also answer the pending questions you never answered which we complained about in our last letter explaining we are not satisfied with the FOIA response.

Thank you for your prompt assistance in this serious matter. We appreciate all of your help in working with us to provide the requested information regarding the questions presented and communications in order to protect the public health and safety.

Thank you and looking forward,
Cordially,
Interest Of Justice,



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