

2. Each Party, taking into account its national circumstances, and in accordance with its international obligations, shall take appropriate measures to ensure decent work, protect the continued safety, mental health, well-being, and strengthen capacity of its health and care workforce, including by:

- (a) facilitating priority access to pandemic-related health products during pandemic emergencies;
- (b) eliminating all forms of inequalities and discrimination and other disparities, such as unequal remuneration and barriers faced by women;
- (c) addressing harassment, violence and threats;
- (d) supporting individual and collective empowerment; and
- (e) developing policies for work-related injury, disability or death during emergency response.

3. Each Party shall endeavour to strengthen national capacities and designate or establish, as appropriate, national, subnational and/or regional level multidisciplinary emergency health teams. Building on this, the Parties shall take measures, within their capacities and capabilities, in coordination with the World Health Organization and other relevant international and regional organizations, with the aim to strengthen, sustain and mobilize a skilled, trained and multidisciplinary global health emergency workforce to support Member States, including through deployment, upon their request.

4. The Parties shall collaborate, as appropriate, and in accordance with their national and/or domestic law, through multilateral and bilateral mechanisms, to minimize the negative impact of health and care workforce migration on health systems while respecting the freedom of movement of health professionals, taking into account the World Health Organization health workforce support and safeguards list and applicable international codes and standards, including those of a voluntary nature, such as the World Health Organization Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel.<sup>9</sup>

5. The Parties, taking into account national circumstances, shall take appropriate measures in order to ensure decent work and a safe and healthy environment for other essential workers who provide essential public goods and services during pandemic emergencies. The Parties, taking into account national circumstances, shall also take measures to develop and implement coordinated policies for the safety and protection of transport and supply chain workers, as appropriate, by facilitating the transit and transfer of seafarers and transport workers, among others, and their access to medical care.

## **Article 8 Regulatory systems strengthening**

1. Each Party shall strengthen its national and, where appropriate, regional regulatory authority responsible for the authorization and approval of pandemic-related health products, including through technical assistance from, and cooperation with the World Health Organization,

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<sup>9</sup> Reference to the aforementioned Global Code of Practice does not alter its voluntary nature.

and other international organizations upon request and other Parties as appropriate, with the aim of ensuring the quality, safety and efficacy of such products.

2. Each Party shall take steps towards ensuring that it has the technical capacity, and legal, administrative, and financial frameworks, as appropriate, in support of:

(a) expedited regulatory review and/or emergency regulatory authorization, and oversight of pandemic-related health products, consistent with applicable law; and

(b) effective vigilance to monitor the safety and effectiveness of pandemic-related health products.

3. Each Party shall, in accordance with applicable national and/or domestic law, as appropriate, make publicly available and keep updated:

(a) information on national and, if applicable, regional regulatory processes for authorizing or approving the use of pandemic-related health products; and

(b) information on the pandemic-related health products that it has authorized or approved, including relevant additional information about the authorization or approval.

4. Each Party shall endeavour, subject to applicable national and/or domestic law, to adopt, where needed, regulatory reliance mechanisms in its national and, where appropriate, regional regulatory frameworks for use during public health emergencies of international concern, including pandemic emergencies, for pandemic-related health products taking into account relevant guidelines.

5. Each Party shall, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, encourage relevant developers and manufacturers of pandemic-related health products to diligently seek regulatory authorizations and approvals from national and/or regional regulatory authorities, including World Health Organization listed authorities, and prequalification of such products by the World Health Organization.

6. The Parties shall collaborate, as appropriate, towards improving the World Health Organization processes for Emergency Use Listing, prequalification and any other relevant World Health Organization processes for recommending the use of pandemic-related health products.

7. The Parties shall, as appropriate, monitor and strengthen rapid alert systems and take regulatory measures to respond to substandard and falsified pandemic-related health products.

8. The Parties shall endeavour to, subject to applicable law:

(a) cooperate with a view to align, where appropriate, relevant technical and regulatory requirements in accordance with applicable international standards and guidance; and

(b) provide support to help strengthen national regulatory authorities' and regional regulatory systems' capacity to respond to pandemic emergencies, subject to available resources.