

**Question for written answer E-001538/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Gerald Hauser (PfE)

Subject: Legal conformity of late amendments to the IHR – Interpretation of Article 55(2)

In its answer to parliamentary question P-000805/2025¹ the Commission writes that all proposals submitted in September 2022 for amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHR) were circulated to the States Parties on 16 November 2022, i.e. 17 months prior to the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA) on 27 May 2024, meaning that the four-month deadline stipulated by Article 55(2) IHR was met.

Article 55(2) IHR reads as follows:

‘The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated to all States Parties by the Director-General at least four months before the Health Assembly at which it is proposed for consideration.’

The World Health Organization (WHO) did in fact submit a comprehensively revised amendment text on 17 April 2024, which was further modified until it was adopted on 1 June 2024.

1. Is a fully revised draft tabled shortly before the WHA still regarded as the ‘same’ amendment?
2. If so, where in the WHO statutes is that determined?
3. What is the legal basis for the Commission’s statement that the four-month deadline was met?

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¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-10-2025-000805-ASW_EN.html