# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO. 2048**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 27 MAY 2022**

**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 20)**

**Mr P A van Staden (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Health:**

(1) Whether any correspondence has taken place between his department and The Presidency regarding the drafting and signing of a World Health Organisation International Pandemic Treaty; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) what are the reasons that he has not brought the specified treaty, and issues related to it, to the Portfolio Committee on Health for discussion?

###### NW2448E

**REPLY:**

A pandemic treaty is not imminent. Although Member States of the World Health Organization agreed in December 2021 that a new World Health Organisation (WHO) convention, agreement, or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response is needed, it will take years of negotiations to reach a final draft. 2024 is the target. The Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) leading this process will meet before the end of 2022 to discuss and consider a working draft treaty. The outcome of this meeting will determine whether there is a draft document that can be shared.

END.