



6. A roadmap forward

The Panel has made bold, considered, and pragmatic recommendations. The stakes are too high for these to be ignored or postponed. They deserve debate and may be challenged, but they must not be put off for some “better” or more convenient time. It is in the interests of every leader to act now. We are confident of the way we have carried out the task assigned to us. The Panel has conducted its work independently and impartially. We have made clear the focus on data, facts and science as the basis for our recommendations.

The shelves of storage rooms in the United Nations and Member State capitals are full of the reports of previous reviews and evaluations that could have mitigated the global social and economic crisis in which we find ourselves. They have sat ignored for too long. This time, it must be different. This Panel’s findings are lessons to be learnt and the recommendations a springboard for action.

Implementation should start now and will help open up the many pathways to recovery worldwide. The pandemic is not yet over, and its social and economic consequences will continue to be felt for years.

This pandemic has shown us that this is not only a health crisis requiring medical solutions: its impact has gone far beyond the health sector and therefore must involve whole-of-government and whole-of-society political decision-making and investment.

The coming weeks and months require concerted action by different actors in a range of settings:

- National governments taking responsibility both at home but also regionally and at the global level, both demonstrating and demanding accountability;
- The World Health Assembly in its carriage of governance responsibility for WHO;
- Heads of State and Government in a global summit, as recommended;
- Regional political bodies in their proximity to member states giving them a great opportunity for rapid decisions and sharing of information, successes and failures, based on a shared regional context and histories of work together;
- Other structures, such as the G7, G20 and G77, and the Bretton Woods institutions, as catalysts for political and financial measures and for the implementation of the solutions and recommendations identified.