10 Reasons why Australia MUST cancel its treaties with the WHO

Reason 1 Health Minister Butler's endorsement of the WHO's 2024 International Health Regulations (IHRs) and his support of the Pandemic Agreement is inappropriate because:

- consultation with Australians about these documents has been woefully inadequate
- nevertheless, many Australians objected to the treaties
- 14 members of parliament objected to the treaties
- Australian politicians and agencies were not given 4 months to consider the finished wording of the IHRs and their implications for Australia, as required under international law to consider the finished wording of the IHRs and their implications for Australia.

Reason 2 The treaties will cost Australia billions of dollars annually.

- This money could be better spent at home and abroad.

Reason 3 The treaties empower the Director of the WHO to declare a pandemic without evidence.

- The Director of the WHO can declare a pandemic or threat of pandemic, even with no evidence, activating emergency powers in Australia to ensure we are in lockstep with the WHO's recommendations, undermining our ability to utilise normal democratic processes in order to decide what is in our own best interests.
- The WHO Director is not a health expert.
- The WHO's 'One Health' approach,[1] which applies to humans, animals, plants and the environment, is an overreach of its powers and does not recognise the uniqueness of individuals and environments.

Reason 4 Emergency powers[2] enable our politicians to follow the WHO's lead and restrict Australians' freedom by:

- imposing:
    - lockdowns (which did not stop the spread of Covid-19 and achieved more harm than good) [3] [4] [5] [6]
    - travel restrictions
    - forced medical examinations
    - mandatory vaccinations
    - isolation and quarantine [7]
- requiring digital ID (called 'health documents') [8]
- requiring medical information and samples to be supplied to the WHO which, in turn, can disclose this information to others[9]

- controlling information by:
    - curtailing freedom of speech (through using the labels "misinformation" and "disinformation") which has no regard for empirically proven truth.
    - controlling research and development
    - censoring independent scientific debate, including silencing peer reviewed scientific and medical research [10]
- increasing surveillance:
    - Annex 1, A.2.c.(i) requires Australia to *"develop, strengthen and maintain core capacities . . . in relation to . . . surveillance"*
- financing other countries' implementation of the Regulations [11]
- implementing any other measure the WHO deems to be appropriate[12].

Reason 5 The WHO's approach to pandemic management in the Covid-19 epidemic [13] was grossly flawed. The WHO:

- failed to identify the origins of Covid early, and then failed to condemn gain-of-function research
- encouraged lockdowns even though they could not be effective for respiratory viruses and were known not to work:[14] [15]
    - Australia's previous pandemic management plans, the distillation of decades of public health knowledge and still in place in March 2020, did not advocate lockdowns of healthy populations in any circumstances due to their prohibitively high economic and social costs [16]
    - the relationship between stricter lockdown policies and lower mortality was not as claimed – if anything, stricter lockdowns produced higher mortality [17]
    - Lockdowns made no difference to excess mortality eg Sweden (which did not impose lockdowns) vs countries that did.
- encouraged the mass uptake of Covid vaccines, even though
    - they had not been fully tested
    - serious side effects had been identified in initial testing [18] [19]
    - naturally acquired immunity is known to be superior to that conferred by vaccines [20]
- encouraged travel restrictions, border closures and prolonged workplace closures - without any evidence that these measures would reduce mortality or morbidity from Covid or overall - which were contrary to the Australian Health Management Plan and subsequently shown not to work [21]
- encouraged mass-scale mask wearing even though evidence does not show that masks are effective in most circumstances[22]
- ignored low-cost, easy-access health solutions that had demonstrated their effectiveness in previous epidemics, such as increased Zinc, vitamins C and D and courses of Ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine [23]
- advised responses to the Covid-19 pandemic that enormously increased levels of private and public debt in the world economy [24]
- ignored diseases with a higher disease burden in favour of spending profusely on Covid, thereby mis-allocating public health dollars.

Reason 6 Implementing the WHO's solutions to pandemic management in the Covid-19 epidemic created an economic and humanitarian crisis in Australia.

- Lockdowns separated people from families and loved ones: people were unable to visit sick or dying relatives, attend weddings / christenings / funerals, or even attend places of worship or normal community gatherings.
- Social isolation caused increased rates of loneliness and depression. [25]
- One in five Victorian teens aged 14 to 17 had suicidal thoughts most days. [26]
- People gained weight, developed sedentary habits and consumed more alcohol and fatty foods and these trends persisted subsequently. [27]
- Relationships broke down from stress, and the number of marriages reduced. [28]
- Schools closed and affected students experienced major educational setbacks. [29]
- Small businesses closed and hundreds of thousands of jobs were lost. [30]
- Joblessness has been estimated to have had negative effects equivalent to losing 1.8 million years of life. [31]
- Australia's Covid response in total has been estimated to have cost $934.8 billion. [32]
- Australia's COVID lockdowns have been estimated to have cost at least 68 times the amount of benefits they delivered. [33]
- Inflationary effects of Covid policies 2020-2022 have been estimated to have cost Australia $82.8 billion, with costs accumulating beyond 2022. [34]
- Domestic violence increased. [35]

Reason 7 The WHO is neither an independent nor an impartial body, and thus is unfit to make decisions about Australia's health policy.

- The WHO is essentially an agent of big business rather than an independent health authority.
    - It receives most of its funding, not from member nations (13 - 14%), but from other contributors (86 - 87%) whose funding is earmarked for specific projects. [36] [37]
    - The WHO's Covid-19 policies resulted in big profits for pharmaceutical companies during the Covid pandemic and enormous harm to citizens worldwide.
    - The WHO negotiated no liability for vaccine manufacturers of the Covid-19 injections.
    - The WHO did not reveal the risks [38] of the vaccinations it recommended.
- Big Business should not be making decisions about Australians' health.

Reason 8 The WHO is indemnified from liability for harm. [39]

- Australian voters have no way of holding the WHO accountable.
- Conflicts of interest mean the WHO is unlikely to strive for best-practice health outcomes.

Reason 9 **These treaties have ongoing application and lengthy withdrawal periods, making them very difficult to get out of once we are committed.**

Reason 10 **The treaties establish a mechanism whereby we would be giving the WHO an alarming degree of undue influence over the Australian government and its people.**

The best way to stop the IHRs and Pandemic Agreement becoming domestic law is to *exit the WHO*.

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