

NUS CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW GLOBAL HEALTH LAW NOTES

ADVANCING GLOBAL EQUITABLE ACCESS TO VACCINES: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND CONTRACTS

Panel Discussion 2 December 2022 **Comments by Julia Barnes-Weise**

What Does GHIAA Do?



- We provide tools and resources to support the formation of partnerships that will facilitate access to critical medical products.
- Our goals are to:
 - Address the need for greater transparency of the agreement terms that have an impact on global health.
 - Raise awareness of the importance & relevance of agreement terms in translating access policies into meaningful & measurable impact.
 - Provide advice and resources for those seeking to understand and implement access policies in their agreements.
 - Facilitate collaborative efforts & open dialogue related to the development, negotiation and implementation of global health agreements.

Why Do Contracts Matter?



- Contracts provide the legal framework that governs a partnership.
- The terms of a contract should clearly explain the rights and obligations of all parties in achieving the objectives of a partnership.
- Signature of a contract provides a confirmation that the parties have aligned expectations for the partnership.
- Without this written alignment, there is an increased risk of misunderstandings and failure to achieve the intended outcomes.
- The lifecycle of a medical product can involve many different contracts such as funding for product development, licensing of intellectual property rights and supply of a product to a purchasing organization.
- It is important to consider how the terms of one contract might affect a future contract, particularly if the final goal is to ensure equitable access to the product.

GHIAA MAPGuide®



What is it?

An **open access** tool containing **analysis of provisions** from global health agreements.

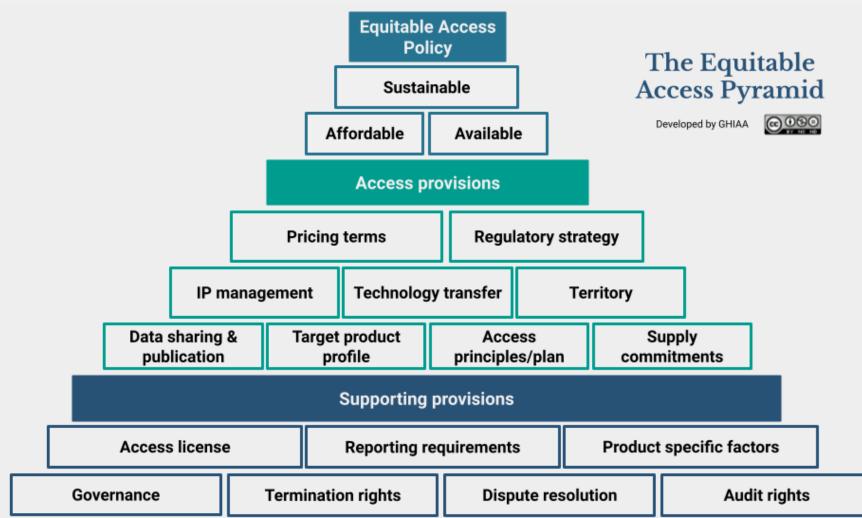
It is organized into **key issues** for developing & rapidly concluding global health agreements with the aim of enabling increased access to medical products.

Why did we develop it?

The 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa exposed significant gaps in epidemic preparedness, including readiness to **rapidly conclude R&D collaboration** agreements.

Negotiations were hindered by a **lack of clarity on appropriate approaches** to key issues. We identified the need for a tool to help stakeholders assess the **range of options** available.

Key Components of Equitable Access





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