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05 NOVEMBER 22

MEMORANDUM FOR SCUSA 73

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEALTH

1. **Issue:** The purpose of this memorandum is to propose foreign policy recommendations for the United States to effectively maximize our preparation for and response to future pandemics.
2. **Strategic Analysis:**
 - a. *Communication*

There is limited international sharing and transparency of medical practices and information. Nations attempting to solve these problems in an isolated manner creates inconsistency further hindering effective policy in the international realm.
 - b. *Human Resources*

There is a lack of medical providers and workers for the positions available, creating strain and burnout on medical professionals, diminishing the efficacy of their work, and preventing those who require medical attention from receiving treatment promptly.
 - c. *Technology*

There is a need for multilateral optimization of PPPs (public-private partnerships) on an international level. The international community needs an efficacious platform for sharing medical technology and healthcare information that incentivizes cooperation while maximizing security.
3. **Relevant National Interests:**
 - a. Improving communication and collaboration mechanisms worldwide to improve pandemic outcomes and responses.
 - b. Protecting the U.S. and global population from future pandemics and alleviating potential staffing shortages under health emergencies that often result in a surge in patient intake.
 - c. Developing technologies to encourage multilateral cooperation in the international sphere.

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4. Strategic Options and Recommendations:

- a. Communication: Enhancing International Cooperation and Transparency
 - i. Host biennial exercises and simulations at a conference on various global health topics facilitated by the U.S. Intended to recognize international policy shortcomings, expand multinational problem-solving capabilities in healthcare, and discover solutions to future public health challenges.
 - ii. Launch a public health social media campaign created by domestic and international leaders to facilitate conversation about general well-being, consistently provide basic medical advice, and minimize misinformation.
 - b. Human Resources: International Registry and Foreign Exchange Program
 - i. Establish international medical certification standards allowing medical providers to practice and teach medicine in other countries. An international registry would provide the World Health Organization (WHO) with capable medical professionals, deployable in the case of emergency. This bolsters the baseline of medical knowledge throughout the world – including the U.S. – allowing for swift and decisive action.
 - ii. Utilize international organizations to develop a worldwide Registry of Health Care professionals, consistent in standards that coincide with the greater health interests of other countries, to sign onto the registry.
 - iii. Work with WHO to facilitate and assist professionals in transitions and information exchange between countries.
 - iv. Implement a program to allow existing medical professionals as well as medical students to work and study in countries throughout the world.
 - c. Technology: International Preparedness from a Technological Perspective
 - i. Utilize existing networks of distribution in private sectors globally.
 - ii. Invest in emerging technologies globally that include forecasting using artificial intelligence and early warning systems.
 - iii. Encourage the use of open-source technologies that allow contribution or usage by any party.
 - iv. Incorporate exercises to share and enhance technologies supporting global health initiatives, international data synchronization, and service to the Global South in the biennial joint-nation conference. Countries that commit to sharing specific technologies and information would be granted membership.
 - v. A certification program and code of conduct to establish an international standard of fairness that will simplify data sharing, safeguard patient privacy rights, and promote healthcare innovation.
5. The point of contact for this memorandum is CDT Anthony Haynes at anthony.haynes@westpoint.edu or 385-393-9091.

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References:

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