Update on the Establishment of an Independent Panel for Evidence for Action against Antimicrobial Resistance (IPEA)

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GLG technical session on IPEA
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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

UN environment programme

World Health Organization

World Organisation for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

UNGA Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance—Our Reference Point
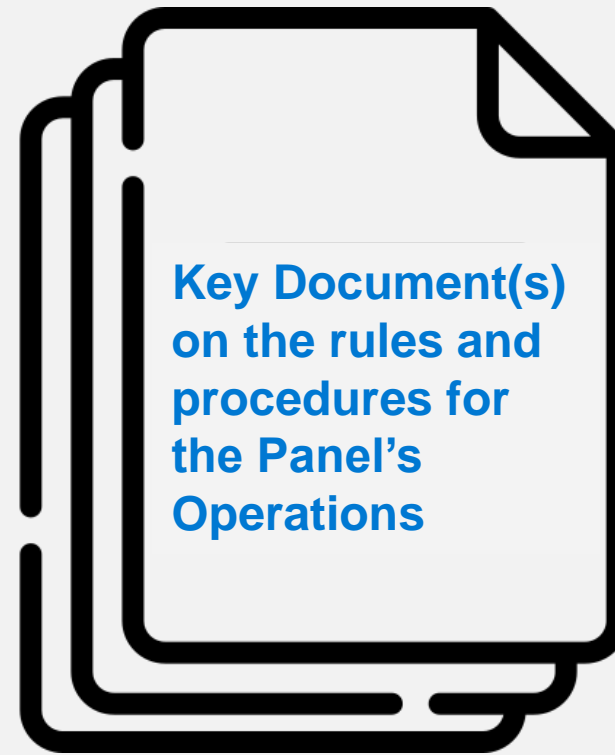
Invite the Quadripartite organizations to establish an **independent** panel for evidence for action against antimicrobial resistance in 2025 to **facilitate the generation and use of multisectoral, scientific evidence** to **support Member States** in efforts to tackle antimicrobial resistance, **making use of existing resources and avoiding duplication of on-going efforts**, after an open and transparent consultation with all Member States on its composition, mandate, scope, and deliverables.

Elements Needed for the Establishment and Operations of IPEA

Building upon existing science-policy panels and lessons learned, a strong panel typically has

A key Document for the Panel's Establishment (founding document)

Key Document(s) on the rules and procedures for the Panel's Operations

→ **formally adopted through a political process to ensure ownership and buy-in**

→ **formally adopted by the panel itself, ideally at its first plenary session**
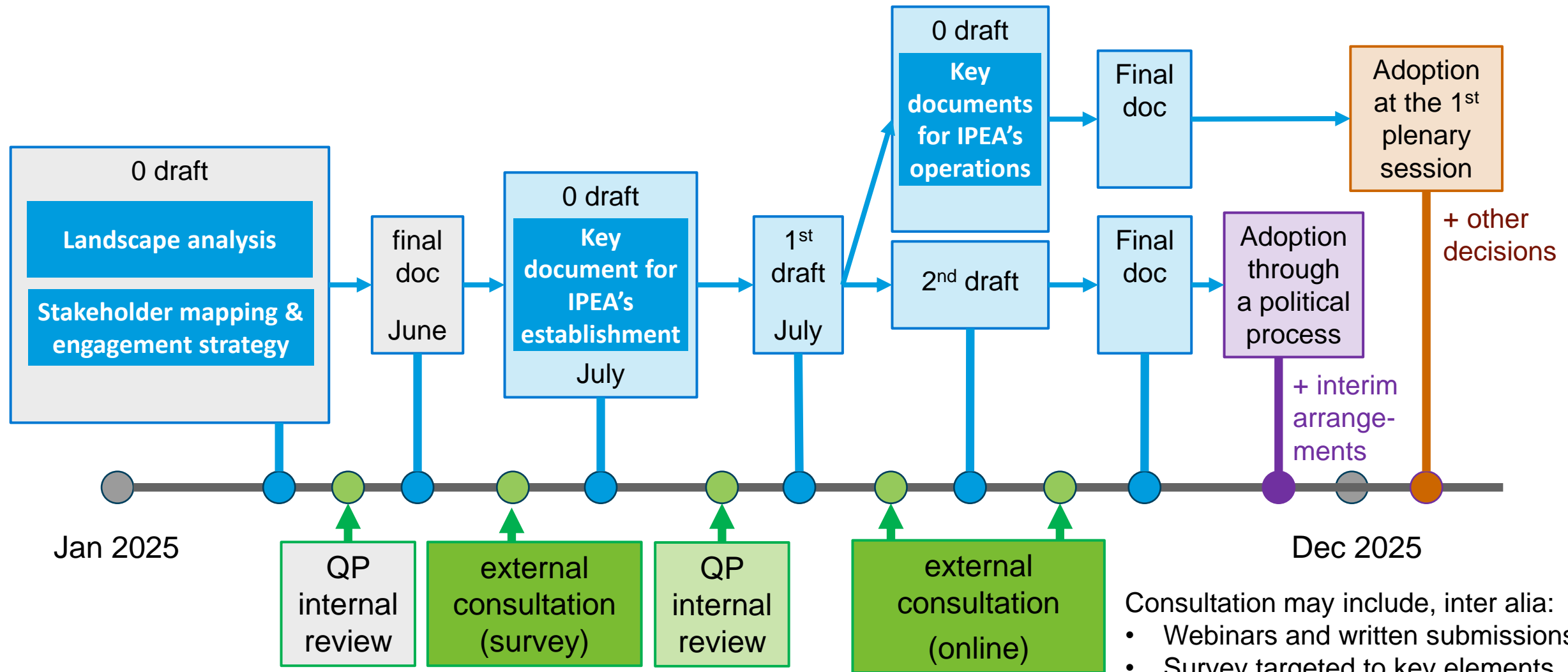
Structured Progression of the Consultative Process

Overview of the Landscape Analysis

It contains key findings from

- initial analysis in 2020: 11 science-policy panels and networks from across the One Health spectrum

- 2025 complementary analysis in 2025: 3 interdisciplinary and intersectoral science-policy panels on complex and evolving challenges

It identifies key elements of **institutional design**

- recognizing that AMR is a dynamic and complex issue and that IPEA will develop its own programme of work

- NOT intended to prescribe a specific model for IPEA, but to inform its development through targeted consultation, including best practices and lessons learned

The Key Elements of Institutional Design

- Scope/objective

- Functions and outputs

- Institutional arrangements

- Relationship with stakeholders

- Effectiveness evaluation mechanisms

- Financial arrangements

- Rules, policies and procedures

Scope/objective of the Panel

- **Common approach:** broad overarching objectives (flexibility) + periodically updated multi-year work programmes (specificity), developed through an open, transparent and inclusive development process

- 2024 Political Declaration on AMR

    → bi-directional communication between science and policy

    → **Proposal for Member State and stakeholder input:**

    "*The objective of IPEA is to facilitate the generation, synthesis and use of multisectoral, scientific evidence to support Member States in their efforts to tackle antimicrobial resistance, making use of existing resources and avoiding duplication of ongoing efforts.*"

# Functions and Outputs of the Panel

Potential functions shared by one or more existing panels

- *Assessments:* synthesize diverse knowledge sources from various sectors into comprehensive, thematic, or methodological reports

- *Horizon scanning:* identify and highlight early signs of emerging risks or opportunities, and appropriate responses

- *Knowledge management:* share information, and identify and highlight research gaps

- *Policy support:* develop tool and methodologies based on the panel's output to guide decision-making at all levels

- *Capacity-building:* enable expert participation and enhance the update of panel outputs

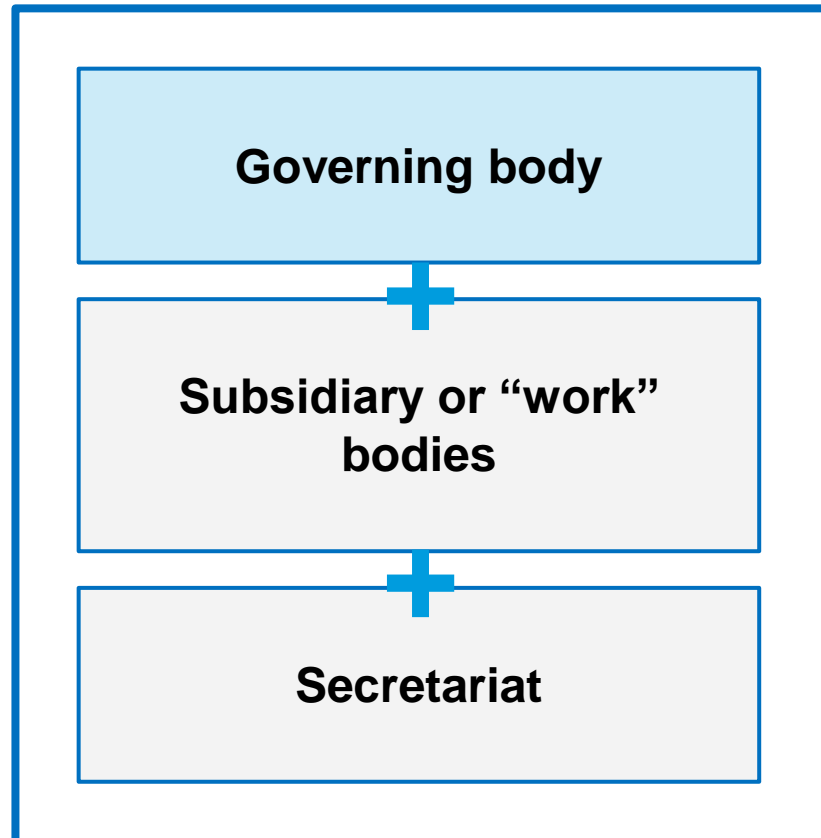→ These may serve as an initial framework for IPEA's work

Institutional Arrangements for the Panel

Governing Body

Governing body

+

Subsidiary or "work" bodies

+

Secretariat
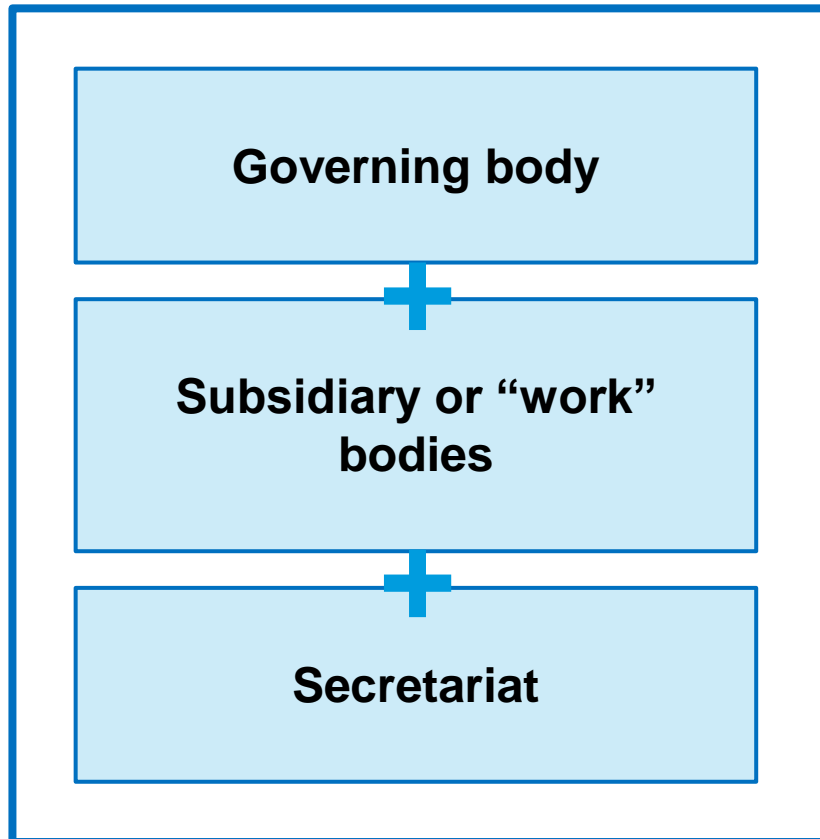
Key functions: Responsible for key decision-making and overarching oversight, including setting strategic direction, approving the budget and work programme, setting and amending rules and procedures

Models
- Intergovernmental: state members + stakeholder observers
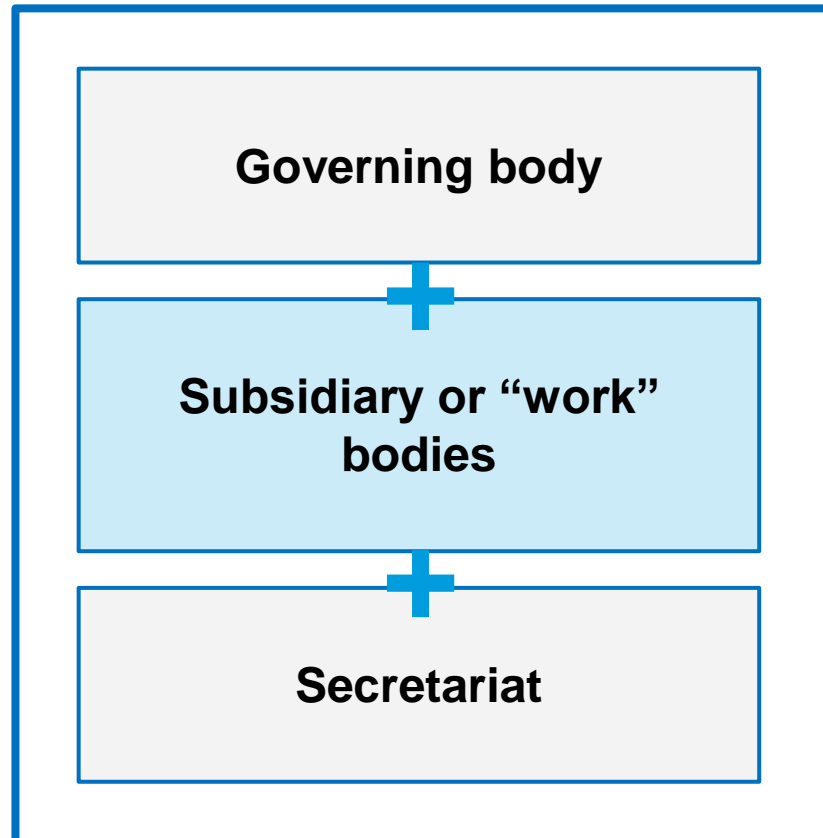- Hybrid): states + stakeholders as members

Key considerations:
- Membership: opt-in vs. opt-out
- Size of the governing body: all vs. selected members? How?
- Modalities of work: online vs. in-person?

Subsidiary or "Work" Bodies (1)

IPEA

- Governing body
- **+**
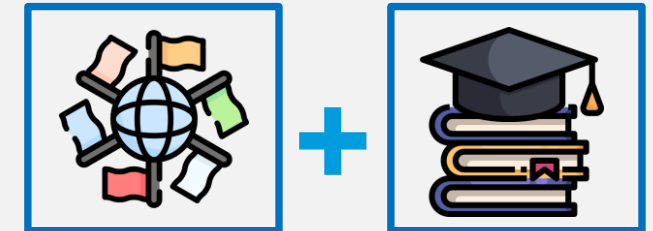- Subsidiary or "work" bodies
- **+**
- Secretariat

Key functions: managing day-to-day operation of the panel, including administration matters (e.g., advising on the work programme implementation, advising on the conduct of the plenary sessions, etc.) and scientific/technical matters (e.g., selecting experts, managing the peer-review process, etc.)
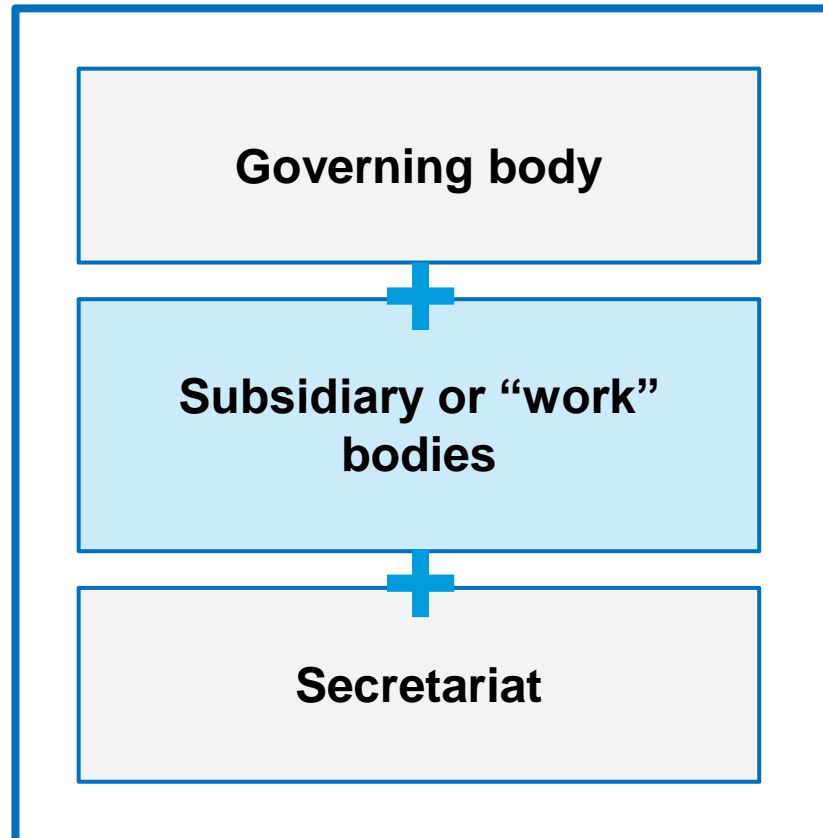
Models:

- One body   vs.   two bodies

Key considerations: to enhance efficiency, the governing body may delegate some of its key functions

Subsidiary or "Work" Bodies (2)

IPEA

- Governing body
- **Subsidiary or "work" bodies**
- Secretariat

Key functions: conducting the scientific and technical work to implement the work programme

Models:

- standing bod(ies) of experts on pre-defined thematics
- *ad hoc* bodies of experts tailored to specific tasks
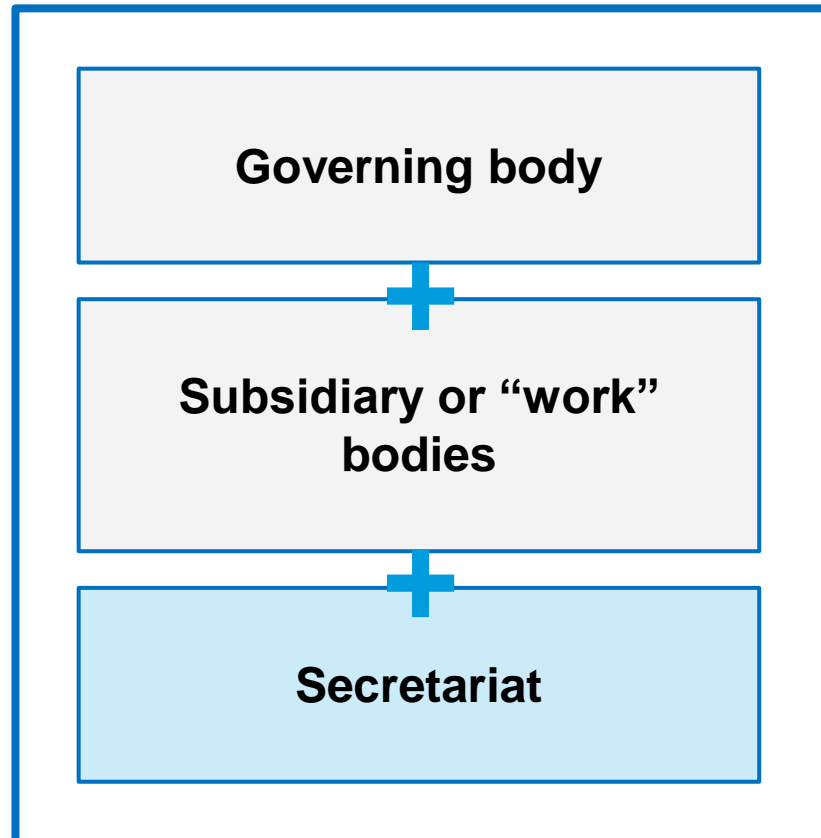- a hybrid of standing and *ad hoc* bodies

Key considerations:

- Standing bodies offer efficiency but lack flexibility to respond to emerging issues, while *ad hoc* bodies provide adaptability but require additional time and effort to become operational

Secretariat

IPEA

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│  │  Subsidiary or "work"     │  │
│  │         bodies            │  │
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│  │       Secretariat         │  │
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- **Functions:** Support the work of the governing body and subsidiary bodies
  - Typically focusing on administrative matters + scientific and technical tasks in some cases
  - Potentially complemented by *ad hoc* technical support unit(s) for specific activities
- **Secretariat arrangement to be considered**
  - Hosting institution(s): how?
  - Hosting location: based on member states' offer? based on hosting institution(s)?

Relationship with Stakeholders

- Effective stakeholder engagement → enhanced credibility, relevance and impacts

- **Common approaches**

  - Formal inclusion in bodies and processes, as members or observers

  - Establishment of strategic partnerships

  - Informal mechanisms such as stakeholder networks and events

- **Key considerations**

  - Clear roles and responsibilities

  - A conflict-of-interest policy to safeguard the panel's integrity and independence

- QP is developing a stakeholder mapping and engagement strategy

Effectiveness Evaluation Mechanisms

- Vital for panels to identify strengths, address weaknesses, and continuously improve processes and outcomes

- **Common approaches**

  - Formal evaluation provisions

  - Informal approaches

- IPEA may include a provision on the need for periodic, independent evaluation in its founding document to help ensure continuous improvement and accountability.
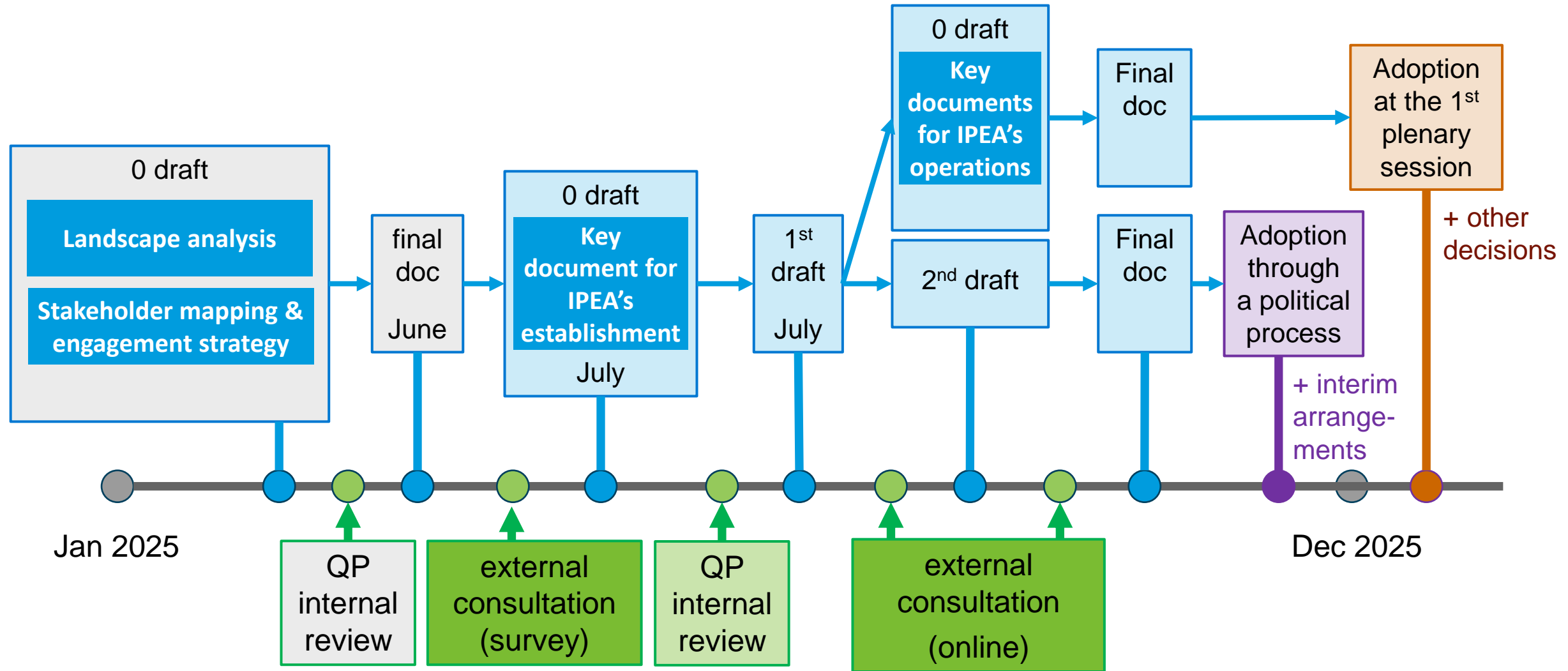
Financial Arrangements

- **Common approach**

  - An independent trust fund and a structured budget process aligned with the work programme, overseen by the governing and administrative subsidiary bodies, and administrated by the secretariat

  - Typically, from voluntary contributions without conditions (with specific exceptions for ear-marking), while some panels require mandatory contributions for members

  - Complemented by substantial amounts of in-kind contributions such as expert time and technical support

- **Key considerations**

  - How to broaden the contribution sources, including private sector and foundations

  - Potential task group on financial stability

Rules, Policies and Procedures

Key rules, policies and procedures necessary for the functioning IPEA may be developed as a high priority, in advance of launch or by the panel itself:

- Rules of procedure
- Financial procedures
- A conflict-of-interest policy
- A Process for determining the programme of work

Structured Progression of the Consultative Process

Thank you!