

Multilayered Health Governance and the Possibility of Taiwan's Participation in it

2024 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WHO
PANDEMIC TREATY NEGOTIATION

20 November 2024

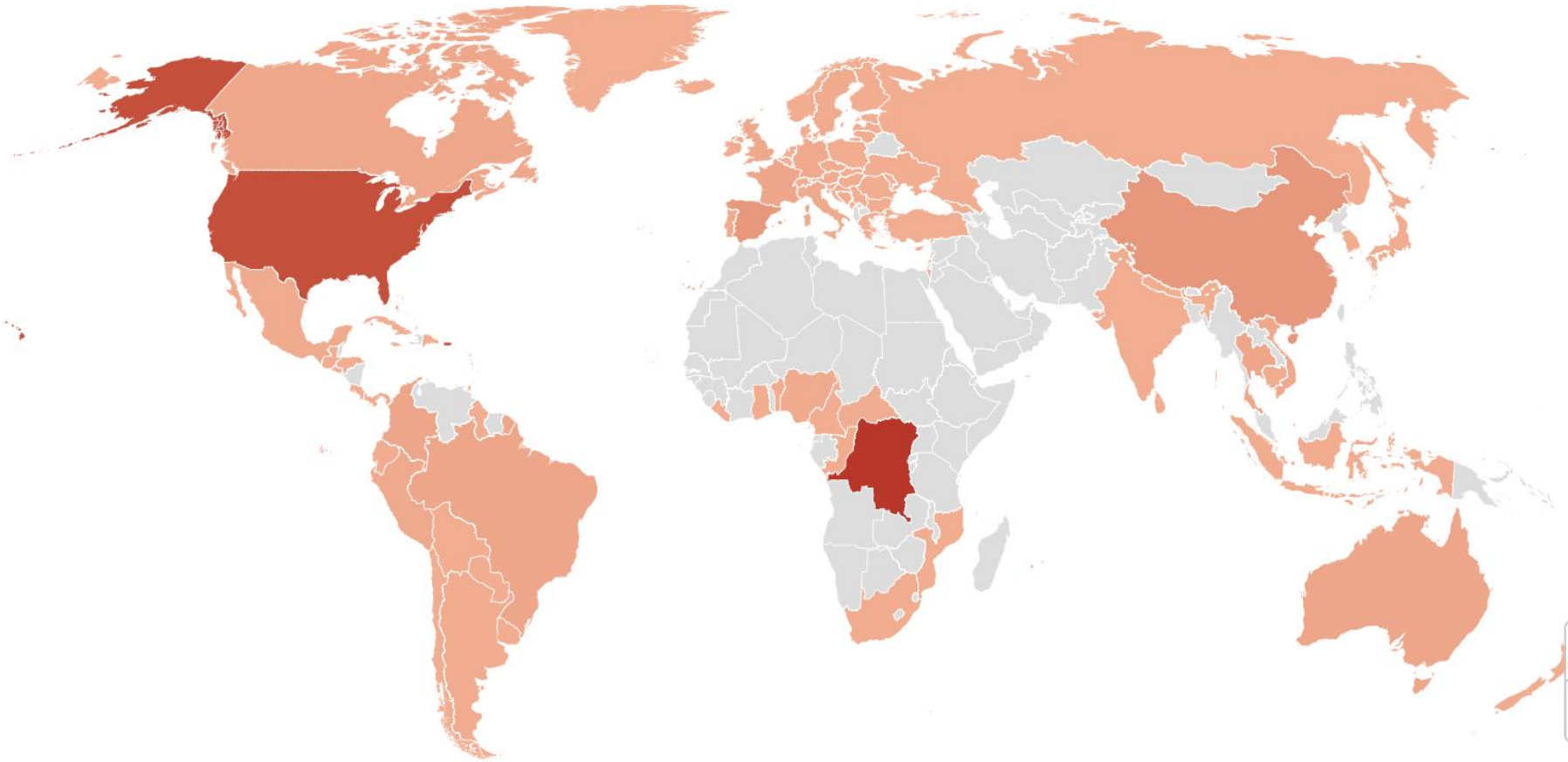
Kayo Takuma (Keio University)

Outline

1. Multilayered Structure of Global Health Governance
2. Regional Health Cooperation in Asia
3. Discussion: How to include Taiwan in the cooperation?

1. Multilayered Structure of Global Health Governance

The continuing threats of infectious diseases (M pox)



How to deal with viruses effectively which easily transcend borders without world government?

Number of cases
0 1,800

A map shows the countries which have reported cases of mpox (either Clade I or Clade II) since the start of the year. Clade I—which is responsible for the current outbreak in Africa—causes more severe disease.

What is Global Health Governance?

‘the use of formal and informal institutions, rules, and processes by states, intergovernmental organizations, and non-state actors to deal with challenges to health that require cross-border collective action to address effectively’ [Fidler, David P., The Challenges of Global Health Governance, Working Paper (May), Council on Foreign Relations, 2010]

Trends in global health governance after the pandemic

Norms

- The experience of the pandemic made the people reaffirm the importance of socio-medical approaches such as One Health

Non-hierarchical approach

- need for non-hierarchical cooperation

Strong political impact

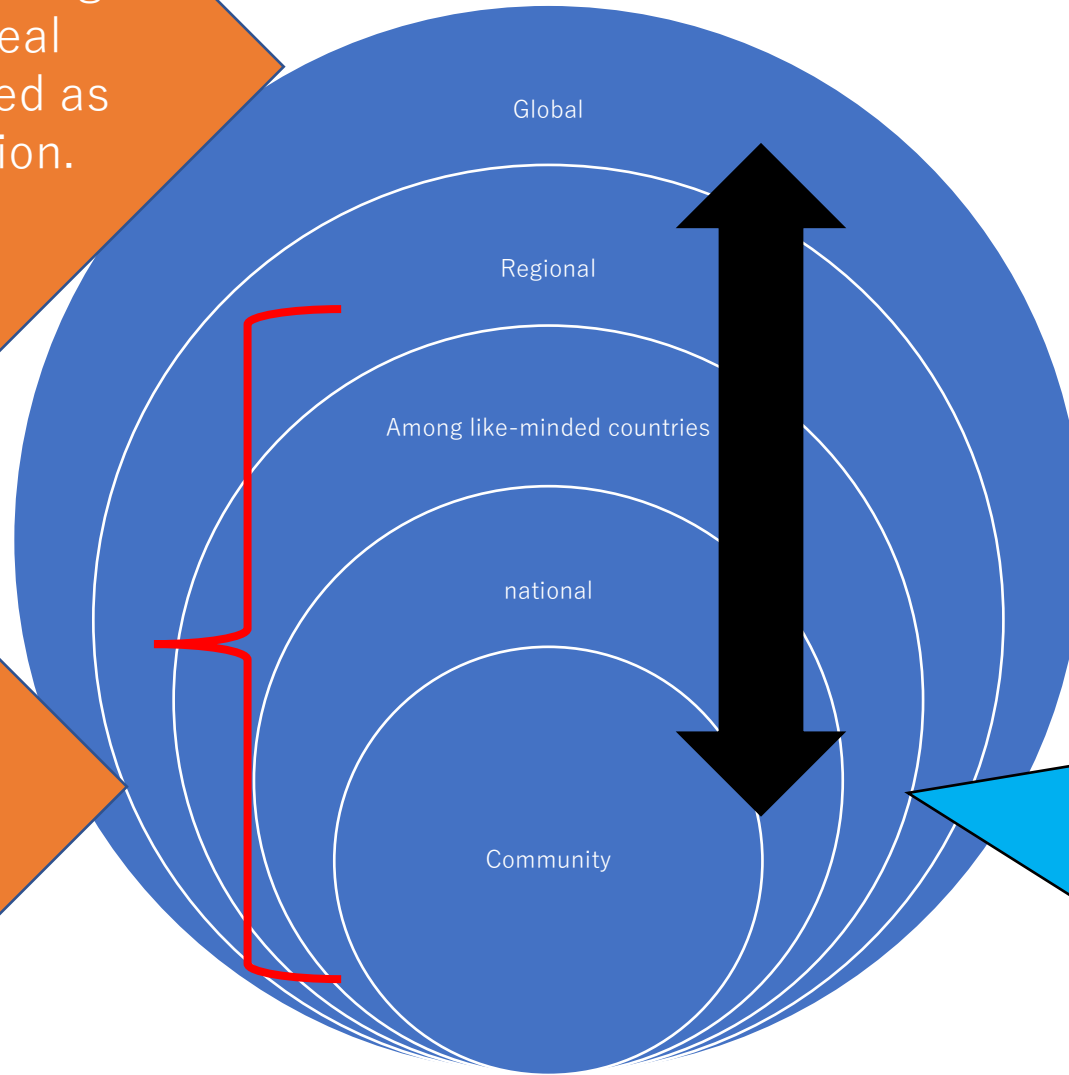
- Growing awareness of health security, GHG is close involved in international politics

political Impact on the field of health

- Conflict between the US and China over the source of the outbreak
- Conflict between Russia and Western countries
- Different positions on the Pandemic Agreement

Multilayered structure of global health governance

Expected to play the role of presenting norms and principles, while no real response capability can be expected as reflecting geopolitical confrontation.



Historically, the structure for health cooperation has been multi-layered, with an emphasis on connectivity among each level [Akami 2016, Takuma 2023]

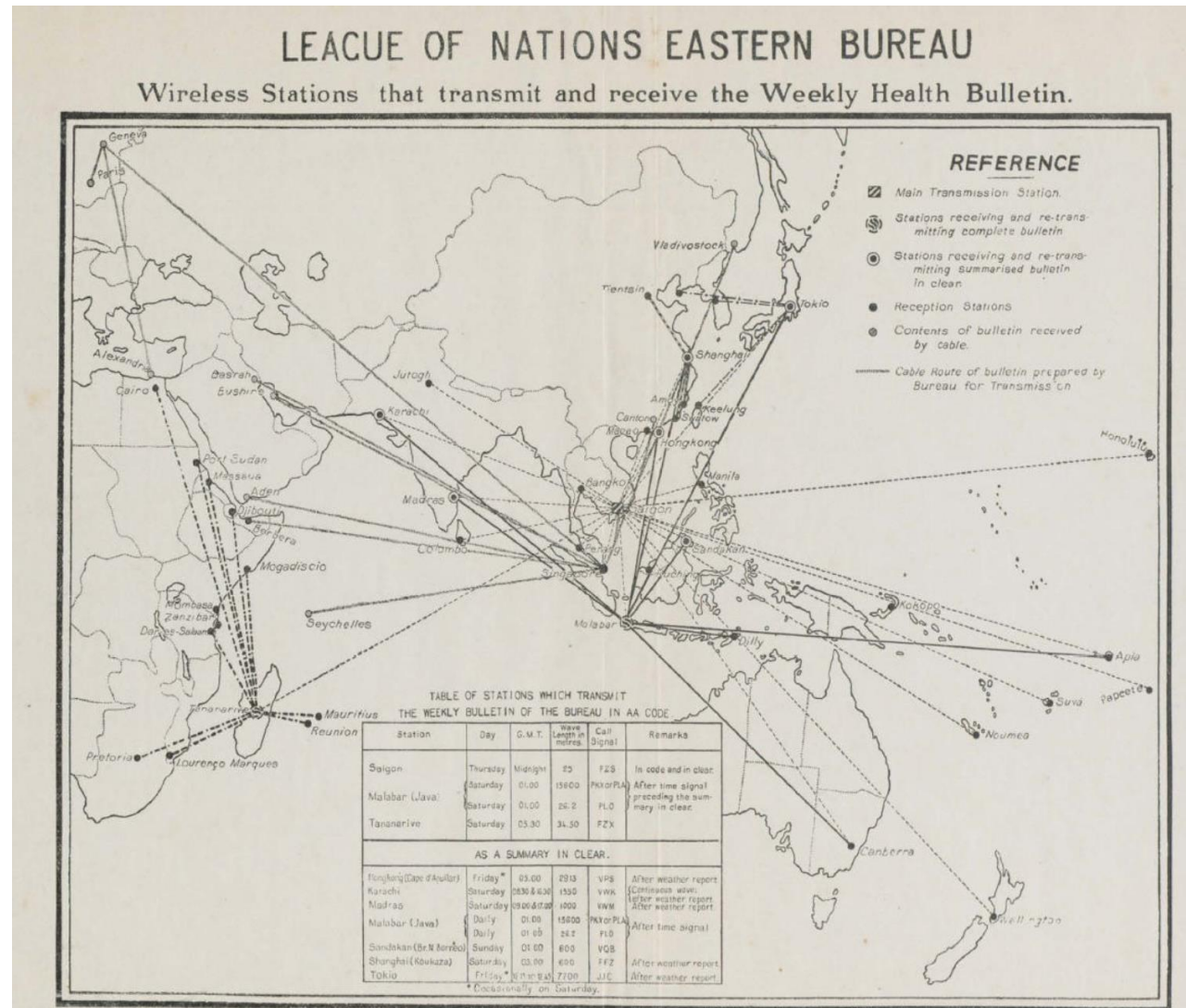
Expected to make substantial preparations and responses

Multilayered structure of global health governance

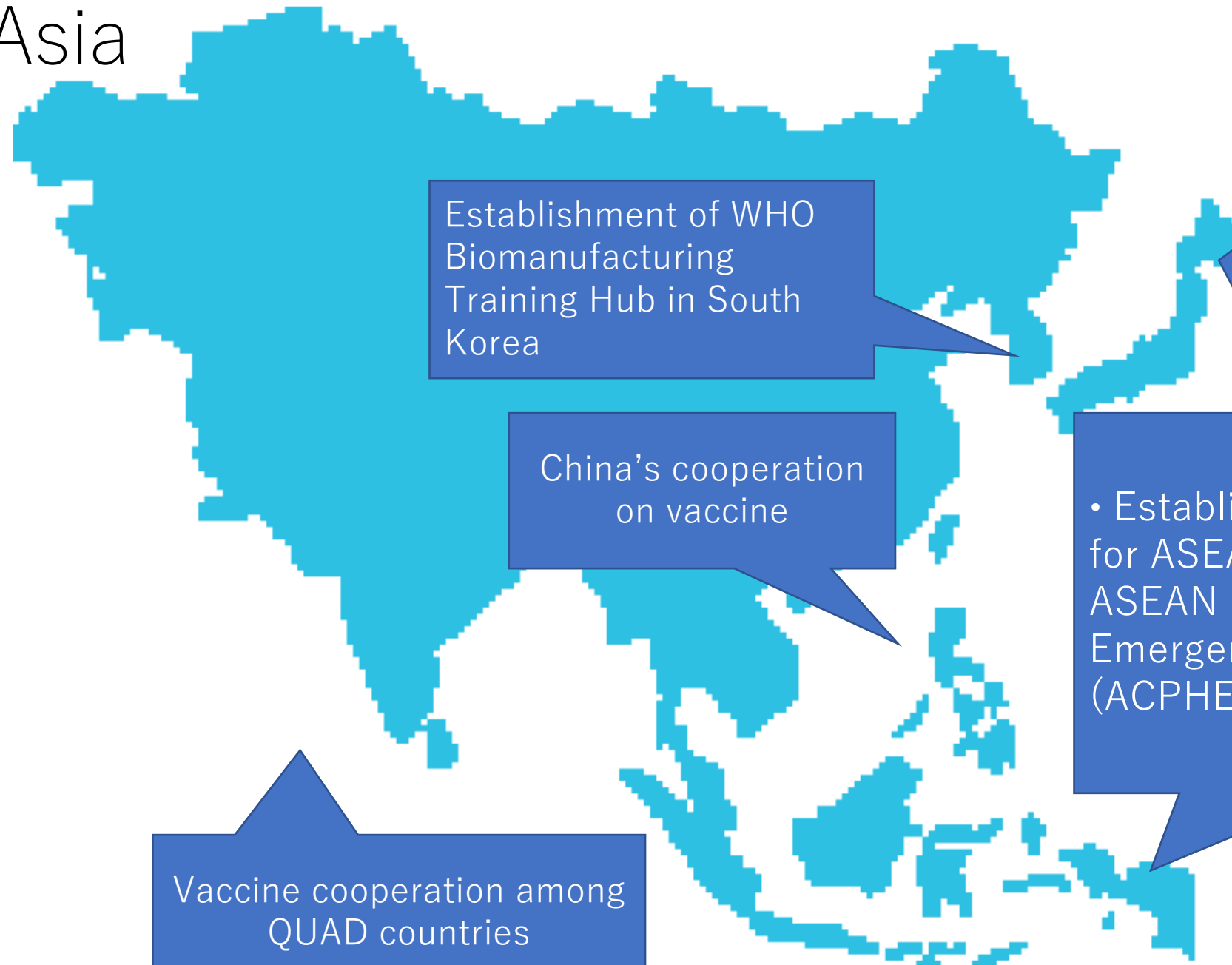
level	Contents
Global	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revision of the International Health Regulations (IHR)• Negotiation for the creation of the Pandemic Treaty• Reform of the WHO
Regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Europe : Establishment of the European Health Union• Africa : Establishment of African Vaccine Acquisition Trust (AVAT) in 2020, Establishment of African Medicines Agency in 2022• Latin America : Establishment of Regional Platform to Advance the Manufacturing of COVID-19 Vaccines and other Health Technologies in the Americas in 2021• Asia : Establishment of ARO Alliance for ASEAN & East Asia (ARISE), ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging (ACPHEED), WHO Biomanufacturing Training Hub in South Korea
Among like-minded countries/ friendly countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vaccine cooperation among QUAD countries• G7's contributions to COVAX or vaccine donation• The plan to establish Tokyo Office of the US CDC

2. Regional Health Cooperation in Asia

infectious disease cooperation in Asia before the war (based on the Singapore Epidemiological Center)



Asia



Establishment of WHO Biomanufacturing Training Hub in South Korea

China's cooperation on vaccine

Vaccine cooperation among QUAD countries

- The plan to establish Tokyo Office of the US CDC
- The plan to launch the WHO's UHC center in Japan

- Establishment of ARO Alliance for ASEAN & East Asia (ARISE), ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging (ACPHEED),

Japan's efforts in Asia

- Support for the establishment of the ASEAN Center for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED)
- Launching the ARO Alliance for ASEAN and East Asia (ARISE)
- Cooperation with the US CDC East Asia Pacific (EAP) Regional Office

3. Discussion:
How to include Taiwan in the
cooperation?

From the latest draft of the Pandemic Treaty released in May 2024

- Article 4 (1): “The Parties shall take steps, individually and through international collaboration, in bilateral, regional and multilateral settings, to progressively strengthen pandemic prevention and surveillance capacities, consistent with the International Health Regulations (2005) and taking into account national capacities and national and regional circumstances.”
- Article 7 (3): “Each Party shall endeavor to strengthen national capacities and designate or establish, as appropriate, national, subnational and/or regional level multidisciplinary, emergency health teams. Building on this, the Parties shall take measures, within their capacities and capabilities, in coordination with the WHO and other relevant international and regional organizations, with the aim to strengthen, sustain and mobilize a skilled, trained and multidisciplinary global health emergency workforce to support Member States, including through deployment, upon their request.”

→Regional cooperation is compatible with the Pandemic Treaty, as a global framework

My argument

1. Because of increasing political tension, cooperation has become difficult, making regional cooperation more important.
2. Despite Taiwan's potential role as a critical player in global health, its full participation in health governance remains a challenge.
3. It may be, however, possible to informally bring Taiwan into regional frameworks to strengthen regional health security.

Policy recommendations

- Incorporating Taiwan into the cooperation between the US CDC and Japan CDC (JIHS)
- Incorporating Taiwan in the cooperative framework that Japan leads

Thank you
for your attention !