**Teamwork**

**Preparing for pandemics without U.S.: The World Health Organization has proved it can function without Donald Trump’s U.S., said Le Temps. In fact, it may have “emerged stronger.” The U.S. contributed a fifth of the Geneva-based WHO’s budget, and American health experts were widely respected, so when Trump pulled out, WHO officials feared the agency would lose focus. But in a “hopeful ray of light,” the 194 remaining countries last week came together to clinch a global agreement on pandemic preparedness. Without Trump, who denied the need for such planning, reaching a compromise was actually easier. It still took plenty of negotiation, of course. A dispute over vaccine and drug patents broke out between pharmaceutical powers, like the EU and Switzerland, and poorer nations, and it “almost derailed everything.” South Africa wanted a measure that would lift patents in an emergency so drugs and vaccines could be produced anywhere they were needed. In the end, diplomats “managed to wrest a compromise” that says patented information will be shared when everyone agrees. The new protocol established a system of access and fair compensation that should make vaccines available faster in the next pandemic. This is the first sign that the WHO can thrive despite the “drastic cuts in U.S. funding.” And it must. “Global health can only be a collective endeavor.” *(The Week magazine, May 2, 2025)***

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**Today, October 7th, 2025, is**

**NATIONAL INNER BEAUTY DAY**

**For quotes, stories, funnies, anecdotes, illustrations, trivia, and statistics on this topic, I invite you to scroll down the homepage of the website to the Beauty section of** [**document**](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)**s, and click open the document(s) of your choice!**

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**September 30th, 2025 - LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH (Cornelia Addington, in Abundant Living magazine)**

**September 23rd, 2025 - international cooperation (William Falk, in The Week magazine, December 25, 2020)**

**September 16th, 2025 - Notre-Dame Cathedral *(The Week magazine, December 13, 2024)***