



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Regional Office of the
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

525 TWENTY-THIRD STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037-2895, U.S.A.

TELEPHONE (202) 974-3000

IN REPLY REFER TO: GPP/GB-CL-02-06

27 January 2006

Sir,

In Decision CE137(D5), the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) established an open-ended Working Group on Streamlining the Governance Mechanisms of PAHO.

The Executive Committee designated Argentina, Barbados, Canada, Costa Rica, and Cuba as Members of the Working Group, and Canada as its Chairman.

The Working Group held its first meeting on 5 and 6 December 2006, and the following Terms of Reference were agreed upon:

- (1) To prepare recommendations on:
 - (a) the reform and simplification of the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming (SPP), and the Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development;
 - (b) the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations;
 - (c) the process of election of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, and
 - (d) the improvement of the rules of procedure of the Governing Bodies.
- (2) To report on its work to the 40th Session of the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming, and present its recommendations to the 138th Session of the Executive Committee.

The following timetable was agreed upon:


1. The Chairman will write to all Member States by the end of January 2006 forwarding the Summary Notes on the First Meeting, and soliciting their views.
2. Member States' submissions are to be received by the Chair by 28 February 2006. These will be posted on the special web site mentioned below in the original language and a translation will follow.

... Please send your comments on the attached Summary Notes, which should normally be limited to a maximum of two pages, to wggovernance@paho.org.

All submissions will be posted on the PAHO web site:
<http://www.paho.org/English/GOV/WG-Governance-e.htm>.

The Working Group will meet again on 23 and 24 March 2006. A detailed agenda, as well as information on logistics arrangements, will shortly be communicated by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Previsich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

Nick Previsich
Chairperson Working Group
on Streamlining the Governance
Mechanisms of PAHO

... Attachment