



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## 28th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE 64th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 17-21 September 2012

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*Provisional Agenda Item 8.1*

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### **UPDATE ON WHO REFORM: REGIONAL CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT WHO TWELFTH GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK 2014–2019 AND THE DRAFT PROPOSED WHO PROGRAMME BUDGET 2014–2015**

#### **Introduction**

1. The World Health Organization embarked on a comprehensive reform process in January 2010 that is still ongoing. Over the course of 2011 and the beginning of 2012, several consultative processes took place that culminated in the presentation of several documents on WHO Reform at the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly in May 2012. The WHA approved decisions and resolutions related to WHO Reform, which appear in document A/65/55. One of the critical areas to be addressed in the short term is that of Programmatic Reforms, given the development of the new General Programme of Work for the period 2014–2019 (GPW 2014–2019) and the Programme Budget for the first biennium of that period (PB 2014–2015).<sup>1</sup> The Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly decisions on programmatic reforms were devoted to the following:

- (a) “to welcome the report of the Chairman of the Executive Board on the meeting of Member States on programmes, ...priority-setting, and ... criteria; categories and timeline [are] set out in its three appendices”; and
- (b) “to request [that] the Director-General ... use the agreed[-upon] framework and guidance provided by the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly, especially concerning health determinants and equity, in the formulation of the draft Twelfth General Programme of Work and the Proposed Programme Budget 2014–2015.”

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<sup>1</sup> For more information, see

[http://www.who.int/about/resources\\_planning/draft\\_gpw\\_for\\_reg\\_commitees\\_2012\\_en.pdf](http://www.who.int/about/resources_planning/draft_gpw_for_reg_commitees_2012_en.pdf)

2. The Director-General has instituted the process within the Secretariat for developing a more detailed draft GPW 2014–2019 and the proposed PB 2014–2015, and to facilitate further consultation with Member States as mandated by the roadmap and timelines approved by the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly.

**Regional Consultation on WHO Reform, taking place during the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Regional Session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Americas**

3. Regional Consultations with Member States are being conducted in all WHO regions to provide and exchange information, which can then be used for further developing the draft documents during the period extending from late August to the deadline of mid-October 2012. WHO Director-General, Dr. Margaret Chan, will be present at all the Regional Committee meetings. AMRO's consultation will be conducted during the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference on Tuesday, 18 September 2012. The reports of the Regional Committees will provide input for further developing the drafts of the two documents to be reviewed by the WHO Programme, Budget and Administration Committee in December 2012 and, following further revision and development, by the WHO Executive Board in January 2013. Final versions of both documents will be presented to the World Health Assembly in May 2013 for approval.

4. PAHO has emphasized country engagement in the ongoing debate on WHO reform. Prior to the Pan American Sanitary Conference, virtual meetings will be conducted with Member States to facilitate their active participation in the review of the draft documentation provided by WHO. PAHO/WHO Representatives will be providing the necessary country support to the National Health Authorities so as to ensure that Member States have a clear understanding of both the objectives and methodology of the Regional Consultation.

5. During the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, the Regional Consultation will be chaired by the President of the Conference and will be organized into two sessions. The first is scheduled for two and a half hours on the morning of Tuesday, 18 September, with a plenary session followed by meetings of the working groups. The President of the PASC will provide introductory remarks, and Dr. Margaret Chan and her team will make a presentation on the objectives, key issues to be addressed, and methodology to be followed. Subsequently, three working groups will be organized, as follows: (a) English-speaking Caribbean, Haiti, the United States of America, and Canada; (b) Mesoamerica and the Hispanic Caribbean; and (c) South America. The second session will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday, 19 September, or the morning of Thursday, 20 September (pending final approval of the agenda). The purpose of this session is to review and approve the Report on the Regional Consultation for subsequent submission by the President of the PASC to the WHO Secretariat. Guidelines

for the working groups will be provided, along with the relevant documentation. The Secretariat will provide support to facilitate the Regional Consultation, including preparation of the report in accordance with established GBO guidelines.

### **Action by the Pan American Sanitary Conference**

6. The Conference is asked to examine the WHO draft 12th General Programme of Work and the WHO Programme Budget 2014–2015 and provide input for their improvement. The Regional Consultation taking place during the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference provides Member States with the opportunity to continue their participation in this critical reform process.

### **Annexes**

A: Draft 12th GPW for Regional Committees:

<http://intranet.who.int/homes/prp/gpw/>

B: Draft Proposed Programme Budget 2014-2015, Regional Committee version:

<http://intranet.who.int/homes/prp/pb/>

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