



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



150th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 18-22 June 2012

Provisional Agenda Item 7.2

CE150/INF/2 (Eng.)
3 May 2012
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

UPDATE ON THE WHO REFORM

1. Since the Sixty-fourth World Health Assembly (WHA) in May 2011—closely followed by the World Health Organization (WHO's) 129th Session of the Executive Board (EB), also held in May 2011—the WHO reform process was discussed during the 2011 meetings of the Regional Committee, including the 51st Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) held in September 2011. Mission briefings on WHO Reform took place in Geneva in July and September, with opportunities for further comment made available via online consultation. A consolidated paper containing the proposals made under each main section of the process was considered by the EB at its Special Session on WHO Reform held in November 2011.
2. During the 130th Session of the Executive Board in January 2012, the EB further considered nine papers on specific aspects of the program for reform that had been developed in response to requests made by the EB during its aforementioned Special Session the preceding November. Member States were invited to comment on specific proposals via an online consultation that followed the January 2012 EB meeting.
3. Most recently, in February 2012, Member States met to agree on criteria, categories, and a timeline for priority-setting to eventually be reflected in WHO's upcoming Twelfth General Program of Work 2014-2019 (12th GPW) as well as in the proposed Program Budget 2014-2015 (PB 2004-2015). At the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly held in May 2012, the WHO Reform—Report by the Director General (Document A65/40) outlines the criteria agreed upon by the Member States to be utilized for priority-setting and for WHO programs. This report also provides a roadmap with timelines for the reform process through May 2013.
4. At the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly in 2012, the WHO Reform—Consolidated Report by the Director General (Document A65/5) will be presented. It provides a 12-month update of each of the three main areas of reform: programs and priority-setting; governance; and management. The document summarizes the progress in development of proposals, and implementation of those proposals already developed. The

document also identifies issues that the WHA will need to address before taking further action.. In several areas, the detailed proposals reviewed last November at the *EB Special Session* have been consolidated to provide a better sense of how they can contribute to the objectives of WHO Reform. The WHA will be invited to endorse, provide guidance, or document progress made on the various components of WHO Reform, including reporting the findings and recommendations from Stage One as stated in the Independent Evaluation presented by the External Auditor's Evaluation Team. The WHA will also provide further guidance on how best to conduct Stage Two of the evaluation.

5. At the February 2012 meeting of WHO Member States on programs and priority-setting, the Secretariat was asked to use the categories and criteria previously agreed upon when preparing a draft outline of the 12th GPW. This is a requirement laid down in Article 28 of the WHO Constitution, stating that any program of work covering a specific period of time is to be submitted by the EB to the WHA.

6. A draft strategic overview of the 12th GPW (Document A65/5, Add.1), covering the six-year period beginning in January 2014, will be reviewed in May by the WHO/EB's Program, Budget and Administration Committee (PBAC)—and subsequently, during the Sixty-sixth WHA, as part of the discussion on WHO Reform. Based on the outcome of these discussions, the WHO Secretariat will prepare a more detailed first, complete draft for submission to the Regional Committees, containing a draft framework of the proposed WHO PB 2014–2015. Between mid-August and mid-October, WHO will hold an online consultation. PAHO (WHO's Regional Office for the Americas, or AMRO) will facilitate the Regional Consultation for the Region of the Americas, ensuring that Member States have sufficient opportunity for ample discussion and input into both the 12th GPW (2014–2019) and the proposed framework of the WHO 2014-2015 PB. Both topics will be addressed under the agenda item on “WHO Reform” at the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, to be held in September 2012.

7. Further drafts of WHO's 12th GPW and 2014-2015 PB, with input from the Regional Committee, will be reviewed by the PBAC in November 2012—and subsequently, following further revision and development, by the WHO EB in January 2013. Final versions of both documents will go to the Sixty-sixth WHA in May 2013.

8. Member States are invited to take note of this report and its annexes, to remain involved in the WHO Reform process, and to participate in the Regional Consultation on WHO's 12th GPW 2014–2019 as well as on the framework for PB 2014–2015.

Annexes: [A65/5: WHO Reform—Consolidated Report by the Director General](#)
[A65/5, Add.1: Twelfth General Program of Work](#)
[A65/40: WHO Reform—Report by the Director General](#)