FINAL REPORT
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Opening of the Session

1. The 155th Session of the Executive Committee was held at the Headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in Washington, D.C., on 3 October 2014. The session was attended by representatives of the following eight of the nine Members of the Executive Committee elected by the Directing Council: Bahamas, Canada, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Jamaica, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago, and United States of America. Guatemala, also a Member of the Executive Committee, was not present in this session. Representatives of Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, El Salvador, France, Guyana, Haiti, Mexico, Peru, and Uruguay attended as observers.

2. Dr. Jarbas Barbosa da Silva (Brazil, outgoing President of the Executive Committee) opened the session and welcomed the participants, extending a special welcome to the new Members elected by the recently concluded 53rd Directing Council: Guatemala, Trinidad and Tobago, and United States of America.

3. Dr. Carissa Etienne, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB), extended gratitude to Dr. Barbosa da Silva for his commitment and skillful leadership of the Committee from October 2013 to October 2014, observing that the period had marked a historic moment in the history of the Organization.

Procedural Matters

Election of Officers

4. Pursuant to Rule 15 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee elected the following Member States to serve as officers for the period from October 2014 to October 2015 (Decision CE155[D1]):

   President: Paraguay (Hon. Elisa Ruíz Díaz Bareiro)
   Vice President: Costa Rica (Dr. María Elena López)
   Rapporteur: Trinidad and Tobago (Mr. Hamid O’Brien)

5. The Director served as Secretary ex officio, and Dr. Jon Kim Andrus (Deputy Director, PASB) served as Technical Secretary.

Adoption of the Agenda (Document CE155/I)

6. Pursuant to Rule 9 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee adopted, without change, the provisional agenda prepared by the Director (Decision CE155[D2]).
Committee Matters

Election of Two Members to the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration on the Expiration of the Periods of Office of Chile and El Salvador on the Executive Committee

7. The Committee elected Ecuador and the United States of America to serve on the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration on the expiration of the periods of office of Chile and El Salvador on the Executive Committee. The Committee expressed appreciation to Chile and El Salvador for their service (Decision CE155[D3]).

Appointment of One Member to the Audit Committee (Document CE155/2)

8. Dr. Heidi Jiménez (Legal Counsel, PASB) reported that the Bureau had been informed in July 2014 that Mr. Peter Maertens no longer wished to be a member of the PAHO Audit Committee. It was therefore necessary for the Executive Committee to appoint a new member to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Maertens. The new member would serve until 30 June 2015, the end of Mr. Maertens’ term of office.

9. In order to attract highly qualified candidates, the Director had developed a recruitment strategy, which included placing advertisements in leading journals and newspapers and seeking candidacies from PAHO Member States. The closing date for submission of candidacies had been 15 September 2014. The Bureau had received applications from 52 candidates, from which 17 had been selected for further screening. The Director had then selected a short list of three candidates whom she deemed most qualified for consideration by the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy.

10. The Committee decided to form a Working Group consisting of Bahamas, Canada, and Costa Rica to examine the information provided by the Bureau on the three candidates and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee as to which one should be appointed.

11. Dr. Perry Gomez (Bahamas, Chair of the Working Group) subsequently reported that the members of the Working Group had examined the qualifications of the three candidates in the light of the criteria for membership set out in the Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee. Each member of the Group had ranked the candidates on the basis of five critical factors, and the Group had then compared and discussed the three sets of rankings. The scores for each candidate had been consolidated and the results averaged. The candidates had been ranked according to their consolidated scores and the two best candidates identified. Accordingly, the Working Group recommended the following two candidates for consideration by the Executive Committee, in order of preference: Mr. John D. Fox and Mr. Suresh Raj Sharma.

12. The Executive Committee adopted Resolution CE155.R2, appointing Mr. John D. Fox to fill the vacancy on the Audit Committee and thanking Mr. Maertens for his service.
Governing Bodies Matters

Proposed Dates of the Meetings of the Governing Bodies of PAHO in 2015 (Document CE155/3)

a) Ninth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

13. The Committee decided that the Ninth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration would be held from 18 to 20 March 2015 (Decision CE155[D4]).

b) 156th Session of the Executive Committee

14. The Committee decided to hold its 156th Session from 22 to 26 June 2015 (Decision CE155[D5]).

c) 54th Directing Council, 67th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

15. The Committee decided that the 54th Directing Council, 67th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, would be held from 28 September to 2 October 2015 (Decision CE155[D6]).

Proposed Topics in 2015 (Documents CE155/4, Rev. 1 and CE155/5, Rev. 2)

a) Ninth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

16. The Director outlined the proposed topics for discussion by the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration during its Ninth Session, as listed in Document CE155/4. She suggested that item 4 on that list, “Preliminary PAHO Program and Budget 2014-2015: Mid-Term Assessment,” should be deferred until 2016 as she had been informed that such assessments were normally presented at the end of a biennium.

17. Several delegates expressed the view that item 19 on the list, “Update on WHO Reform,” should be moved from Matters for Information to Program Policy Matters and that the discussion on the item should focus specifically on the implementation of various aspects of WHO reform in the Region. The Delegate of Mexico, speaking as the representative for the Region on the WHO Working Group on Budget Space Allocation, requested that time be allowed during that discussion for a report on the outcomes of the November meeting of the Working Group.

18. The Committee endorsed the list of topics contained in Document CE155/4, with the modifications proposed by Member States and by the Director (Decision CE155[D7]).
b) 156th Session of the Executive Committee

19. The Director outlined the proposed topics for discussion by the Executive Committee during its 156th Session, as listed in Document CE155/5, Rev. 1, noting that as the Committee had agreed to remove the mid-term assessment of the PAHO Program and Budget 2014–2015 from the Subcommittee’s agenda for 2015, it should also be removed from the Committee’s agenda, and as the Committee had agreed to move the update on WHO reform from Matters for Information to Program Policy Matters, the same change should be made in the agenda for the Committee’s 156th Session. In addition, pursuant to decisions taken by the recently concluded 53rd Directing Council, it would be necessary to add an item on the proposed strategy on health-related law and an analysis of PAHO mandates.

20. Committee members suggested the addition of an item on rational use of medicines and other health technologies, with the aim of adopting a resolution designed to foster the exchange of information and experience, leadership, and capacity-building for the management, use, and assessment of medicines and other technologies. The addition of an item on the role of the health sector in addressing violence against women and children was also suggested, the latter building on the momentum created by the adoption by the World Health Assembly of Resolution WHA67.15. It was pointed out that the post-2015 development agenda might not have been agreed at the global level by June 2015 and that it might therefore be premature to attempt to develop a strategy for the health sector response to the sustainable development goals post-2015, as proposed under item 14 of the list contained in Document CE155/5, Rev. 1.

21. The Director agreed that there would probably not be sufficient time to develop a strategy in response to the deliberations taking place within the United Nations on the post-2015 development agenda. However, she believed it would be feasible to begin a discussion of the implications of the sustainable development goals for the health sector. The Bureau would retitle the agenda item accordingly and would work with the respective Member States to develop the approach to and documents on the two additional items proposed.

22. The Committee endorsed the list of topics contained in Document CE155/5, Rev. 2, which includes the modifications proposed by Member States and by the Director (Decision CE155[D8]).

Administrative and Financial Matters

Amendments to the PASB Staff Rules and Regulations (Document CE155/6, Rev. 2)

23. Ms. Kate Rojkov (Manager, Human Resources Management, PASB) explained that the proposed amendments to the PASB Staff Rules set out in Annex A of Document CE155/6, Rev. 1 were necessary for clarity and consistency between the staff rules governing internal appeals and the rules of procedure of the PAHO Board of Appeals, which had been developed by members of the Organization’s Integrity and Conflict
Management System in close consultation with the PAHO/WHO Staff Association. She noted that the proposed amendments would have no financial implications for the 2014-2015 biennium.

24. In the Committee’s discussion of the proposed amendments, it was suggested that for additional clarity the words “as applicable” should be added at the end of Rule 1230.3.4.

25. Ms. Rojkov said that the suggested change would be made.

26. The Committee adopted Resolution CE155.R1, confirming the amendments to the PASB Staff Rules as reflected in Annex A of Document CE155/6, Rev. 1, with the above-mentioned modification.

Other Matters

27. The Delegate of Ecuador, supported by the Delegate of Costa Rica, proposed that the work of the Countries Working Group established by the 153rd Session of the Executive Committee (see the final report of the 153rd Session, Document CE153/FR) should continue and that Brazil should continue as its Chair. The Committee agreed to that proposal.

Closure of the Session

28. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the President declared the 155th Session closed.

Resolutions and Decisions

29. The following are the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Executive Committee in the course of the 155th Session:

**Resolutions**

*CE155.R1: Amendments to the PASB Staff Rules and Regulations*

**THE 155th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,**

Having considered the amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau submitted by the Director in the Annex to Document CE155/6, Rev. 1;

Bearing in mind the provisions of Staff Rule 020 of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau;
Recognizing the need for Staff Rules which facilitate and expedite the management of internal appeal cases before the PAHO Board of Appeal,

RESOLVES:

To confirm, in accordance with Staff Rule 020, the Staff Rule amendments made by the Director concerning the Board of Appeal, effective 3 October 2014.

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)

CE155.R2: Appointment of One Member to the Audit Committee of PAHO

THE 155th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Considering that the 49th Directing Council, through Resolution CD49.R2 (2009), established the Audit Committee of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to function as an independent expert advisory body to the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB) and PAHO Member States;

Guided by the Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee, which establish the process to be followed in the assessment and appointment by the Executive Committee of the members of the PAHO Audit Committee;

Noting that the Terms of Reference of that Committee stipulate that members shall serve no more than two full terms of three years each;

Considering that a vacancy currently exists in the PAHO Audit Committee,

RESOLVES:

1. To thank the Director of PASB for her thorough work in identifying and nominating highly qualified candidates to serve on the PAHO Audit Committee.

2. To thank Mr. Peter Maertens for his years of service to the PAHO Audit Committee.

3. To appoint Mr. John D. Fox to complete the current vacancy as Member of the PAHO Audit Committee through June 2015.

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)
Decisions

CE155(D1): Election of Officers

Pursuant to Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, the Committee elected the following Member States to serve as officers for the period from October 2014 to October 2015:

- President: Paraguay
- Vice President: Costa Rica
- Rapporteur: Trinidad and Tobago

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)

CE155(D2): Adoption of the Agenda

Pursuant to Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, the Committee adopted the agenda submitted by the Director (Document CE155/1).

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)

CE155(D3): Election of Two Members to the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

The Executive Committee elected Ecuador and the United States of America to serve on the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration.

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)

CE155(D4): Dates of the Ninth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

The Executive Committee decided that the Ninth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration would be held from 18 to 20 March 2015.

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)

CE155(D5): Dates of the 156th Session of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee decided that the 156th Session of the Executive Committee would be held from 22 to 26 June 2015.

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)
CE155(D6): Dates of the 54th Directing Council, 67th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

The Executive Committee decided that the 54th Directing Council, 67th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, would be held from 28 September to 2 October 2015.

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)

CE155(D7): Topics for Discussion during the Ninth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

The Executive Committee endorsed the list of topics for discussion by the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration contained in Document CE155/4, Rev. 1, with the modifications proposed by Member States and by the Director.

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)

CE155(D8): Topics for Discussion during the 156th Session of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee endorsed the list of topics for discussion during its 156th Session contained in Document CE155/5, Rev. 2, with the modifications proposed by Member States and by the Director.

(Single plenary, 3 October 2014)
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the President of the Executive Committee, Delegate of Paraguay, and the Secretary ex officio, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, sign the present Final Report in the Spanish language.

DONE in Washington, D.C., United States of America, on this third day of October in the year two thousand fourteen. The Secretary shall deposit the original texts in the archives of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. The Final Report will be published on the webpage of the Pan American Health Organization once approved by the President.

Elisa Ruíz Díaz Bareiro  
President of the  
155th Session of the Executive Committee  
Delegate of Paraguay

Carissa Etienne  
Secretary ex officio of the  
155th Session of the Executive Committee  
Director of the  
Pan American Sanitary Bureau
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1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. PROCEDURAL MATTERS
   2.1 Election of Officers
   2.2 Adoption of the Agenda

3. CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
   3.1 Election of Two Members to the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration on the Expiration of the Period of Office of Chile and El Salvador on the Executive Committee
   3.2 Appointment of One Member to the Audit Committee of PAHO

4. PROGRAM POLICY MATTERS
   4.1 Proposed Dates for Meetings of the Governing Bodies of PAHO in 2015:
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      b) 156th Session of the Executive Committee
      c) 54th Directing Council of PAHO, 67th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas
   4.2 Proposed topics for the:
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5. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS
   5.1 Amendments to the PASB Staff Rules and Regulations

6. OTHER MATTERS

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CE155/2  Appointment of One Member to the Audit Committee of PAHO

CE155/3  Proposed Dates for Meetings of the Governing Bodies of PAHO in 2015

CE155/4, Rev. 1  Revised List of Proposed Topics for the Ninth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

CE155/5, Rev. 2  Revised List of Proposed Topics for the 156th Session of the Executive Committee

CE155/6, Rev. 2  Amendments to the PASB Staff Rules and Regulations
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2. Adoption of the Agenda

Program Policy Matters
3. Draft PAHO Program and Budget 2016-2017
4. Preliminary PAHO Program and Budget 2014-2015: Mid-Term Assessment
5. Nongovernmental Organizations in Official Relations with PAHO
6. Appointment of One Member to the Audit Committee of PAHO

Administrative and Financial Matters
9. Status and Authorized Level of the Working Capital Fund
10. Proposals for the Use of the Balance IPSAS and Budgetary Surpluses
11. Programming of the Revenue Surplus
12. After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI)
13. Master Capital Investment Strategy (Reassessment of the Master Capital Investment Plan)
14. Status of Projects Funded from the PAHO Holding Account
15. Amendments to the PASB Staff Rules and Regulations
16. PASB Human Resources Strategy
Administrative and Financial Matters (cont.)

17. PASB Staffing Statistics
18. PASB Information Technology Strategy

Information Matters

19. Update on WHO Reform
20. WHO Proposed Program Budget 2016-2017
21. Status of the Modernization of the PASB Management Information System (PMIS)
22. Draft Provisional Agenda for the 156th Session of the Executive Committee
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2. Adoption of the Agenda

Program Policy Matters
3. Draft PAHO Program and Budget 2016-2017
4. Preliminary PAHO Program and Budget 2014-2015: Mid Term Assessment
4. Nongovernmental Organizations in Official Relations with PAHO
5. Appointment of One Member to the Audit Committee of PAHO
6. Update on WHO Reform [moved from Program Policy Matters]

Administrative and Financial Matters
9. Status and Authorized Level of the Working Capital Fund
9. Proposals for the Use of the Balance IPSAS and Budgetary Surpluses
10. Programming of the Revenue Surplus
11. After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI)
12. Master Capital Investment Strategy (Reassessment of the Master Capital Investment Plan)
13. Status of Projects Funded from the PAHO Holding Account
14. Amendments to the PASB Staff Rules and Regulations
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15. PASB Human Resources Strategy
16. PASB Staffing Statistics
17. PASB Information Technology Strategy

Information Matters

18. Update on WHO Reform [moved to Program Policy Matters]
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Program Policy Matters
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12. Strategy and Plan of Action on Immunization
13. Strategy and Plan of Action on Dementia and Disabilities in Older Persons
15. Plan of Action on Tuberculosis Control
Program Policy Matters (cont.)

16. Plan of Action on Antimicrobial Drug Resistance
17. Plan of Action on Hepatitis
18. Plan of Action on Workers’ Health

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34. Statement by the Representative of the PAHO/WHO Staff Association
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35. Update on WHO Reform

36. WHO Proposed Program Budget 2016-2017

37. Regional Perspective for the Global Human Resources for Health Strategy

38. Status of the Modernization of the PASB Management Information System (PMIS)

39. Chikungunya Virus Transmission and Impact in the Americas

Progress Report on Technical Matters

40. Implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (Resolution WHA56.1)

41. Proposed 10-Year Regional Plan on Oral Health for the Americas (Resolution CD47.R12)

42. Plan of Action on Road Safety (Resolution CD51.R6)


44. Evaluation of the Plan of Action for Implementing Gender Equality Policy (Resolution CD49.R12) and Proposed Strategic Areas for 2015-2019

45. Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) (Resolution WHA58.3)

46. Dengue Prevention and Control in the Americas (Resolution CSP27.R15)

47. Chronic Kidney Disease in Agricultural Communities in Central America (Resolution CD52.R10)

48. Health Technology Assessment and Incorporation into Health Systems (Resolution CSP28.R9)

49. Status of Pan American Centers
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50. World Health Assembly

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11. PAHO Program and Budget 2014-2015: Preliminary Mid-Term Assessment
11. Update on WHO Reform: [Moved from Information Matters]
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12. Strategy and Plan of Action on Immunization
13. Strategy and Plan of Action on Dementia and Disabilities in Older Persons
14. Strategy for the Health Sector Response to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) post-2015 [Type of document to be determined]
Program Policy Matters (cont.)

15. Plan of Action on Tuberculosis Control
16. Plan of Action on Antimicrobial Drug Resistance
17. Plan of Action on Hepatitis
18. Plan of Action on Workers’ Health
20. Prevention of Violence against Women and Children (New item)
21. Rational Use of Essential Medicines and Other Health Technologies (New item)
22. Analysis of PAHO Mandates (New item)
23. Strategy on Health-related Law (New item)

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47. Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) (Resolution WHA58.3)
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48. Dengue Prevention and Control in the Americas  
    (Resolution CSP27.R15)

49. Chronic Kidney Disease in Agricultural Communities in Central America  
    (Resolution CD52.R10)

50. Health Technology Assessment and Incorporation into Health Systems  
    (Resolution CSP28.R9)

51. Status of Pan American Centers

Resolutions and other Actions of Intergovernmental Organizations of Interest to PAHO

52. World Health Assembly

53. Subregional Organizations
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS/LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES
OFFICERS / MESA DIRECTIVA

President / Presidente: Excm. Sra. Elisa Ruíz D. Bareiro (Paraguay)
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- Dr. Carissa F. Etienne

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