

170th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA (hybrid session), 20-24 June 2022

Provisional Agenda Item 5.3

CE170/20
6 April 2022
Original: English

AMENDMENTS TO THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND FINANCIAL RULES OF PAHO

Introduction

1. The Financial Regulations govern the financial administration of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). Amendments to the Financial Regulations must be approved by either the Pan American Sanitary Conference or the Directing Council of PAHO. Detailed guidance on implementation of the Financial Regulations of PAHO is set forth in the Organization's Financial Rules. In accordance with Financial Regulation 16.3, amendments to the Financial Rules require confirmation by the Executive Committee and are reported to the Conference or the Directing Council.

Proposed Amendment to the Financial Regulations of PAHO

2. During discussions on the extension of the appointment of the National Audit Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the 2022-2023 biennium at the 58th Directing Council, it was noted that best practices governing the appointment of an external auditor would stipulate a limit on the total number of consecutive years appointed. The Pan American Sanitary Bureau (the Bureau) has historically recommended the appointment of an External Auditor for two biennia, with the option to extend for one additional biennium, resulting in a de facto limit of six years for the External Auditor.

3. The Bureau strives to adopt best practices in all areas of financial management, including adopting a term limit in the Financial Regulations governing the appointment of the External Auditor. Therefore, the proposed amendment to Financial Regulation 14.1 stipulates an initial term limit of four years with the option to extend for two additional years, for a total term limit of six years.

4. The proposed amended text for Financial Regulation 14.1 is set out in Annex A to this document.

Action by the Executive Committee

5. The Executive Committee is invited to review the proposed amendment to the Financial Regulations and provide recommendations to the 30th Pan American Sanitary Conference. The Executive Committee is invited to approve the proposed resolution in Annex B.

Annexes

ANNEX A

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS OF PAHO**

<i>Regulation XIV – External Audit</i>		
Current Text	Proposed Text	Comments
<p>14.1 The Conference or the Directing Council shall appoint an External Auditor of international repute to audit the accounts of the Organization. The Auditor appointed may be removed only by the Conference or the Directing Council.</p>	<p>14.1 The Conference or the Directing Council shall appoint an External Auditor of international repute to audit the accounts of the Organization. The term of office shall be four years, covering two budgetary periods, and may be extended once for an additional two years. The appointment of any External Auditor cannot exceed six consecutive years, unless otherwise approved by the Conference or the Directing Council. The Auditor appointed may be removed only by the Conference or the Directing Council.</p>	<p>In accordance with best practices, the term of an External Auditor should be expressly limited to ensure objectivity.</p>

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PROPOSED RESOLUTION

AMENDMENTS TO THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND FINANCIAL RULES OF PAHO

THE 170th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

(PP1) Having considered the report of the Director on the amendment proposed to the Financial Regulations of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), as they appear in Annex A to Document CE170/20;

(PP2) Taking into consideration that this amendment to the Financial Regulations reflects best practices in the limit of terms for the appointment of the External Auditor;

RESOLVES:

(OP)1. To recommend to the 30th Pan American Sanitary Conference that it approve the amendment to the Financial Regulations by adopting a resolution along the following lines:

AMENDMENTS TO THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND FINANCIAL RULES OF PAHO

THE 30th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,

(PP1) Having considered the recommendation of the Executive Committee and the proposed amendment to the Financial Regulations of the Pan American Health Organization as they appear in Annex A to Document CSP30/__;

(PP2) Taking into consideration that the amendment to the Financial Regulations reflects best practices in the limit of terms for the appointment of the External Auditor,

RESOLVES:

(OP) To approve the amendment to the Financial Regulations of the Pan American Health Organization pertaining to the term of office for the External Auditor as set forth in Annex A of Document CSP30/__, and to make this amendment effective immediately.
