



# WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**110th Session**  
**Provisional agenda item 4.1**

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## **Other collaboration: WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring**

### **Report by the Secretariat**

1. In 1978, an agreement was concluded with the Government of Sweden transferring the operational activities of the WHO Programme on International Drug Monitoring to the WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring, Uppsala, Sweden. The agreement (“the Agreement”) provided that WHO would retain full responsibility for the Programme in relation to policy, coordination and dissemination of information. The Government of Sweden was to be responsible for providing the facilities required; WHO would contribute to the cost of medical management of the Centre, in particular the salary of the Medical Director, and to dissemination of the results produced by the Centre. The transfer was discussed during the Thirtieth World Health Assembly (1977).
2. This Centre was established as a Swedish foundation, known as the WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring. Over the years it has evolved into a self-financing operation, funded mainly through sale of its Drug Dictionary, which contains a cross-index of all drugs that have appeared in reports on adverse reactions submitted to the WHO Programme on International Drug Monitoring from 1968 onwards. The Centre is headed by a Medical Director and staffed by some 25 personnel.
3. A review of the work of this collaborating centre commissioned by the Government of Sweden, was completed in 2000. As a result, and following discussions between WHO and the Government of Sweden, the Agreement was recently amended with effect from 1 January 2002.
4. One of the major changes in the Agreement concerns the membership of the Board of the Foundation, which was solely composed of members appointed by the Government of Sweden. The Agreement as amended now provides for the nomination to the Board of the Foundation of three members and three alternates as WHO representatives. In this context, the Director-General took an initial decision to appoint the representatives on the Board, along with three alternates, pending the Executive Board’s endorsement of the principle of WHO representation on the Foundation Board. This initial decision, taken in the interest of optimizing WHO’s role in the Centre, is submitted to the Board for endorsement.

**ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

5. The Executive Board is invited to endorse the principle of WHO representation on the Board of the Foundation, WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring.

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