

Report on financial and administrative implications for the Secretariat of resolutions proposed for adoption by the Executive Board or Health Assembly

1. Resolution WHO's role and responsibilities in health research

2. Linkage to programme budget

Area of work

Health information, evidence and research policy

Expected result

3. Strengthened national health research for health-systems development, within the context of regional and international research and engagement of civil society; WHO programmes and initiatives in research for health-systems development and for access to, and use of, knowledge effectively developed and implemented on the basis of strategic priorities

(Briefly indicate the linkage with expected results, indicators, targets, baseline)

The resolution will help to formulate a WHO "corporate" strategy for health research and will have an impact on the Organization's own priority-setting and management in respect of the research it supports, and will promote technical support to countries in core areas, including the following: health-systems research; research management and organization; monitoring of financial and human resources; capacity building; ethical review of research; and utilization of research in health policy development. It will also help to define WHO's role in health research with respect to the development of an Organization-wide strategy for research, and of linkages to other organizations; and will also inform the Global Ministerial Forum on Research for Health (to be held in Bamako, in November 2008).

3. Financial implications

(a) Total estimated cost for implementation over the "life-cycle" of the resolution (estimated to the nearest US\$ 10 000, including staff and activities) US\$ 5 million are required for:

- (1) elaboration of a WHO research strategy, including support staff costs, travel, wide-ranging consultative and analytical processes, development of a reporting system, and writing; and
- (2) technical support to countries, including cost of training courses and workshops, development of various methodologies, and costs relating to travel and support staff

(b) Estimated cost for the biennium 2006-2007 (estimated to the nearest US\$ 10 000, including staff and activities) US\$ 2 million

(c) Of the estimated cost noted in (b), what can be subsumed under existing programmed activities? US\$ 300 000

4. Administrative implications

- (a) **Implementation locales (indicate the levels of the Organization at which the work will be undertaken and identify the specific regions where relevant)** Headquarters, regional offices and selected country offices; dedicated WHO research centres (IARC, WHO Centre for Health Development, Kobe, Japan) and WHO collaborating centres.
- (b) **Additional staffing requirements (indicate additional required staff full-time equivalents, noting necessary skills profile)** Two staff in the professional category with skills in (1) research policy and management, research governance, priority-setting, health-systems research, knowledge translation; and (2) ethical review of research involving human subjects, clinical research, bioethics and trials registration.
- (c) **Time frames (indicate broad time frames for implementation and evaluation)**
2006: establish an external reference group for the elaboration of WHO's research strategy, an internal steering group (with the participation of senior management) and draft objectives, strategic approaches, processes and timelines
2007: undertake consultations at regional and country levels, and with international partners; provide technical support to countries on various aspects of health research
End 2007: produce first draft of strategy
2008: report on progress to the Executive Board at its 122nd session and the Sixty-first World Health Assembly; continue to develop technical support to countries
End 2008: analyse and finalise the strategy, consult with regional offices for approval of the final draft
2009: submit draft strategy to the Executive Board at its 124th session and the Sixty-second World Health Assembly
2009 and beyond: implement strategy and define process for evaluating its impact; provide technical support.

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