

## **Report of expert committees and study groups**

### **Expert advisory panels and committees and their membership**

#### **Report by the Secretariat<sup>1</sup>**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OR DISESTABLISHMENT OF EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS**

1. The following Expert Panels have been disestablished: the Expert Advisory Panel on Acute Diarrhoeal Diseases and Other Enteric Infections, the Expert Advisory Panel on Respiratory Infections, and the Expert Advisory Panel on Development of Human Resources for Health. The Expert Advisory Panel on Clinical Practice Guidelines and Clinical Research Methods and Ethics has been established, and the Expert Advisory Panel on Health Promotion and Education has been renamed as the Expert Advisory Panel on Health Promotion.

#### **MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS**

2. Membership of the 48 expert advisory panels totalled 738 in December 2008, compared with 734 in December 2007. In terms of regional distribution, 11% of all members of all panels come from the African Region, 23% from the Region of the Americas, 9% from South-East Asia Region, 33% from the European Region, 11% from the Eastern Mediterranean Region and 13% from the Western Pacific Region. Women account for 24% of all panel members.

3. The annexed list of all panels includes a breakdown of members by panel, region and sex, as of December 2008. Further details (lists of experts by region and country) are available on request.

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<sup>1</sup> This report is submitted to the Executive Board in compliance with regulation 4.23 of the Regulations for Expert Advisory Panels and Committees.

## **MEETINGS OF EXPERT COMMITTEES**

4. The following committees met in 2008:

Subcommittee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines (2nd meeting), Geneva, 29 September – 3 October 2008 (10 WHO members: seven men, three women)

Expert Committee on Specification for Pharmaceutical Preparations (43rd meeting), Geneva, 13–17 October 2008 (nine WHO members: six men, three women)

Advisory Committee on Health Research (49th meeting), Geneva, 27–29 March 2008 (13 WHO members: eight men, five women); (50th meeting), Geneva, 8–10 October 2008 (13 members: eight men, five women)

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (69th meeting), Rome, 17–26 June 2008 (seven members: five men, two women); (70th meeting), Geneva, 21–29 October 2008 (six members: six men)

Expert Committee on Biological Standardization, Geneva, 13–17 October 2008 (10 members: eight men, two women).

5. Invitations to take part in these meetings were extended to 68 panel members (four members were unable to attend) from 30 different countries, drawn from six expert advisory panels.

ANNEX  
MEMBERSHIP OF EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS BY PANEL AND REGION

WHO expert advisory panels	Africa		The Americas		South-East Asia		Europe		Eastern Mediterranean		Western Pacific		Total		
	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	%
Acute bacterial diseases	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Ageing and health	1	1	2	2	0	0	6	0	2	1	0	0	11	4	36
Biological standardization	0	0	7	1	3	1	12	2	2	1	5	1	29	6	21
Blood transfusion medicine	8	2	3	1	1	1	5	1	4	2	3	2	24	9	38
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	0	0	7	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	11	1	9
Cardiovascular diseases	2	0	3	0	2	0	6	0	3	0	4	0	20	0	0
Chronic degenerative diseases (diabetes)	2	0	2	0	1	1	6	0	1	0	1	0	13	1	8
Chronic degenerative diseases (rheumatic diseases)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clinical practice guidelines and clinical research methods and ethics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clinical surgical procedures	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	0
Drug dependence (dependence liability evaluation)	0	0	6	2	2	1	5	0	1	0	4	1	18	4	22
Drug dependence and alcohol problems	2	0	5	2	3	1	8	2	2	0	7	1	27	6	22
Drug evaluation	7	1	13	5	5	4	10	5	9	4	6	3	50	22	44
Drug policies and management	5	2	3	1	2	2	10	6	2	0	6	3	28	14	50
Food safety	1	0	10	5	2	1	12	1	0	0	6	0	31	7	23
Health laboratory services	3	0	4	1	0	0	5	2	5	2	1	1	18	6	33
Health promotion	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	3	2	0	0	7	4	57
Health science and technology policy	6	3	4	2	2	1	4	1	4	1	3	2	23	10	43
Human cell, tissue and organ transplantation	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	0
Human genetics	2	0	6	1	2	0	10	2	2	1	1	0	23	4	17
Immunology	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	7	1	14
Injury and violence prevention and control	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
International pharmacopoeia and pharmaceutical preparations	15	1	12	9	2	2	30	12	8	3	8	2	75	29	39

WHO expert advisory panels	Africa		The Americas		South-East Asia		Europe		Eastern Mediterranean		Western Pacific		Total		
	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	%
Leprosy	0	0	1	0	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	9	0	0
Malaria	0	0	2	0	2	0	9	0	1	0	0	0	14	0	0
Mental health	1	0	5	0	4	2	15	2	2	0	4	2	31	6	19
Neurosciences	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	20
Nursing	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	5	5	100
Nutrition	0	0	5	0	2	1	3	1	5	2	3	0	18	4	22
Oral health	2	0	1	0	3	1	9	1	2	0	2	0	19	2	11
Parasitic diseases (filarial infections)	5	1	5	0	7	3	2	0	1	0	1	0	21	4	19
Parasitic diseases (general parasitology)	3	0	6	3	1	1	12	2	2	0	3	0	27	6	22
Parasitic diseases (leishmaniasis)	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
Parasitic diseases (schistosomiasis)	1	0	6	0	0	0	7	0	3	1	4	0	21	1	5
Parasitic diseases (trypanosomiasis)	1	0	8	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	12	4	33
Prevention of blindness	1	1	5	2	0	0	3	0	2	0	1	0	12	3	25
Prevention of deafness and hearing impairment	0	0	2	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	6	1	17
Rabies	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	0
Radiation	0	0	2	1	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	7	1	14
Rehabilitation	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Sexually transmitted infections including those due to human immunodeficiency virus	0	0	3	1	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	7	2	29
Traditional medicine	3	0	4	1	1	0	4	0	2	0	10	1	24	2	8
Tuberculosis	4	2	6	1	2	0	4	1	1	1	3	1	20	6	30
Vector biology and control	1	0	4	1	2	0	13	2	2	0	6	1	28	4	14
Virus diseases	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
Virus diseases (antivirals and interferon)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Zoonoses	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0
<b>Total</b>	77	14	168	48	69	28	244	44	83	24	97	22	738	180	24
		18%		29%		41%		18%		18%		23%			

Number of panel members as of December 2008 where N denotes total number of panel members, W the number of women members, and % the percentage of women panel members by panel and region.