Real Estate Fund

Fourth Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Fifty-eighth World Health Assembly

1. The second meeting of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee was held in Geneva on 14 May 2005 under the chairmanship of Dr A.A. Yoosuf (Maldives) to consider, inter alia, the report on the Real Estate Fund.

2. At its 115th session in January 2005, the Executive Board had been informed that the Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean was considering the construction of office buildings for those locations where staff security was problematic and where the current buildings did not comply with Minimum Operating Security Standards, where staff were accommodated at different locations or where suitable cost-effective office buildings were not commercially available. As negotiations were still in progress and final details were not available, the Executive Board invited the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee to review on its behalf the proposal for construction projects at locations in countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region and to report thereon to the Health Assembly.

3. The Committee was informed that WHO does not intend to construct premises in cases where WHO staff is housed in safe health-ministry premises or where a United Nations house is planned or available, or where accommodation can be rented at affordable prices and construction would not be cost effective. The Committee noted that difficulties in finding suitable accommodation for programme staff in Iraq, Jordan and Tunisia would be an impediment to the implementation of WHO activities in those countries.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

4. The Committee recommended that the Health Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in the report on the Real Estate Fund.

1 For list of participants, see document A58/27.
2 Document A58/33.
3 Documents EB115/45 and EB115/2005/REC/2, summary record of the tenth meeting, section 1, p.155.