World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE BOARD
153rd session
Provisional agenda item 9

EB153/11
24 May 2023

Future sessions of the Executive Board and the Health Assembly

Report by the Director-General

EXECUTIVE BOARD, 154TH SESSION

1. Article 26 of the Constitution of WHO provides that "The Board shall meet at least twice a year and shall determine the place of each meeting." Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board provides that the Board "shall determine at each session the time and place of its next session".

2. It is proposed to convene the 154th session of the Executive Board on Monday, 22 January 2024, at WHO headquarters, Geneva, and to close the session no later than Saturday, 27 January 2024. It is further proposed that the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board should hold its thirty-ninth meeting from Wednesday to Friday, 17–19 January 2024, at WHO headquarters. Should any limitations to physical meetings preclude the holding of these meetings in person, it is proposed that adjustments to the modalities should be made by the Executive Board or, exceptionally, by the Officers of the Board, in consultation with the Director-General. It is further proposed that the Standing Committee on Health Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response should hold its third meeting on Wednesday and Thursday, 13 and 14 September 2023.[1]

3. The draft provisional agenda of the 154th session of the Executive Board will be circulated to Member States for their consideration within four weeks of the closure of the 153rd session, in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board.

SEVENTY-SEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

4. Article 13 of the Constitution of WHO provides that "The Health Assembly shall meet in regular annual session". Article 14 further provides that "The Health Assembly, at each annual session, shall select the country or region in which the next annual session shall be held, the Board subsequently fixing the place." In accordance with Article 15, "The Board ... shall determine the date of each annual ... session." In its decision WHA30(xvi), the Thirtieth World Health Assembly requested the Executive Board to fix the duration of each session.

5. Assuming that the Seventy-sixth World Health Assembly decides that the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly should be held in Switzerland, it is proposed to convene the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly on Monday, 20 May 2024 in Geneva, and to close the Health Assembly no later than

[1] The format of the meeting (in person, virtual or hybrid) shall be decided on by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Director-General as per the terms of reference contained in decision EB151(2) (2022).

Saturday, 25 May 2024. Should the Board agree to this, it is proposed that the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board should hold its fortieth meeting from Wednesday to Friday, 15–17 May 2024, at WHO headquarters. Should any limitations to physical meetings preclude the holding of these meetings in person, it is proposed that adjustments to the modalities should be made by the Executive Board or, exceptionally, by the Officers of the Board, in consultation with the Director-General.

ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

6. The Board may wish to consider adoption of the following draft decisions:

Decision 1:

The Executive Board decided that its 154th session should be convened on Monday, 22 January 2024, at WHO headquarters, Geneva, and should close no later than Saturday, 27 January 2024. The Board further decided that the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board should hold its thirty-ninth meeting from Wednesday to Friday, 17–19 January 2024, at WHO headquarters. Should any limitations to physical meetings preclude the holding of these meetings in person, adjustments to the modalities should be made by the Executive Board or, exceptionally, by the Officers of the Board, in consultation with the Director-General. The Board further decided that the Standing Committee on Health Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response should hold its third meeting on Wednesday and Thursday, 13 and 14 September 2023.

Decision 2:

The Executive Board decided that the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly should be held in Geneva, opening on Monday, 20 May 2024, and should close no later than Saturday, 25 May 2024. The Board further decided that the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board should hold its fortieth meeting from Wednesday to Friday, 15–17 May 2024, at WHO headquarters, Geneva. Should any limitations to physical meetings preclude the holding of these meetings in person, adjustments to the modalities should be made by the Executive Board or, exceptionally, by the Officers of the Board, in consultation with the Director-General.

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