World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE BOARD
153rd session
Provisional agenda item 6.1

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29 May 2023

Election of the Officers of the Board during the intersessional period

Draft decision proposed by the Member States of the WHO Region of the Americas

The Executive Board,

(PP1) Having considered Rules 13 and 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (hereafter the Rules of Procedure) on the election of the Officers of the Board by the Executive Board and the replacement of the Chair of the Board when she or he for any reason is unable to complete their term of office;

(PP2) Noting that Rule of Procedure 17 does not prescribe a mechanism to elect, between two sessions of the Executive Board, the Vice-Chairs and Rapporteur of the Board when they are not able to complete their term of office;

(PP3) Recognizing that there is a need to define an intersessional process that allows for an expedient mechanism for the Executive Board to elect a Vice-chair or Rapporteur, that respects each Region's independence to define its own procedure to select a Vice-Chair or Rapporteur of the Board;

(OP)1. DECIDES to adopt the following written silence procedure to elect a Vice-chair or Rapporteur between two sessions of the Executive Board.

(1) The relevant Member State will notify the Director-General and the relevant regional office, that a Vice-Chair or Rapporteur is unable to complete her or his term of office.

(2) The Director-General and the relevant regional office will send a confirmation to the relevant Member State that they have received the notification.

(3) The relevant WHO regional office, using any processes or arrangements applicable in that given region, will identify – ideally within 30 days of, but no more than 45 days from, receipt of the information under paragraph (1) at the latest – a new candidate for Vice-Chair or Rapporteur of the Board and will communicate the name of the proposed candidate as the Vice-Chair or Rapporteur of the Board to the Director-General.

(4) Within 14 days from the receipt of the information regarding the person identified by the relevant region as Vice-Chair or Rapporteur, the Director-General, in consultation with the Chair of the Executive Board, will transmit the name of the proposed candidate for Vice-Chair or Rapporteur of the Board to the other members of the Executive Board, to be considered for election under a written silence procedure. That communication will also set a date for the receipt

of any objection. Any such objection is to be conveyed in writing and addressed to the Director-General. The date for receipt of any objection will be 14 days from the date of dispatch of the communication.

(5) In the absence of the receipt by the set date of any written objection from a member of the Executive Board, the proposed candidate will be considered as having been elected as Vice-Chair or Rapporteur of the Board.

(6) In the event of the receipt by the set date of one or more written objections from a member of the Executive Board, the candidate will not be considered as the new Vice-Chair or Rapporteur of the Board during the intersessional period, and the election shall be deferred to the next session of the Executive Board.

(7) The Director-General will communicate the outcome of the written silence procedure to all Member States as soon as possible after the set date for receipt of objections referred to in paragraph 4.

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