138th session **EB138.R7**

Agenda item 12.2 **30 January 2016**

Real estate: update on the Geneva buildings renovation strategy

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on real estate: update on the Geneva buildings renovation strategy, and the report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board;[1]

Noting the favourable business case for the Geneva buildings renovation strategy, the critical need to address failing infrastructure at WHO headquarters and the sustainable financing mechanism established to fund the strategy;

Noting the status of negotiations with the Swiss authorities for the construction of a building in Geneva to replace existing temporary and provisional buildings and to provide additional space in order to facilitate the renovation of the main building,

1. REQUESTS the Director-General to establish a Member States Advisory Committee to provide guidance, monitoring and oversight to the WHO headquarters renovation project;

2. RECOMMENDS to the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly the following draft decision:

The Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly, having considered the report of the Director-General on real estate: update on the Geneva buildings renovation strategy, decided:

(1) to reiterate its appreciation to the Swiss Confederation and to the Republic and Canton of Geneva for the continued expression of their hospitality;

(2) to adopt the Geneva buildings renovation strategy, as described in the report on real estate: update on the Geneva buildings renovation strategy;

(3) to authorize the Director-General to proceed with the renovation of the main building (110 million Swiss francs) and the construction of a new building (140 million Swiss francs) at WHO headquarters in Geneva with a total cost of 250 million Swiss francs, on the understanding that if during the evolution of the design period, the likely total cost of the project was to increase by more than 10%, further authority would be sought from the World Health Assembly;

[1] Documents EB138/45 and EB138/3.

(4) to authorize the Director-General to accept the full 50-year, interest-free loan of 140 million Swiss francs from the Swiss federal authorities, subject to their final approval in December 2016;

(5) to approve the use of the Real Estate Fund for the cost of renovations and the repayment over a 50-year period of the interest-free loan if provided by the Swiss authorities with effect from the first year of the completion of the building;

(6) to request the Director-General**:**

(a) to ensure the allocation of US$ 25 million per biennium to the Real Estate Fund;

(b) to report at least every two years to the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly on progress in the construction of the new accommodation and on related construction costs.

Fourteenth meeting, 30 January 2016
EB138/SR/14

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