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## **Implementation of Programme budget 2008–2009: interim report**

### **First report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Sixty-second World Health Assembly**

1. The tenth meeting of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee was held in Geneva on 14 May 2009 under the chairmanship of Dr M. Dahl-Regis (Bahamas). The list of participants is annexed.
2. The Committee adopted the provisional agenda.<sup>1</sup>
3. The Committee welcomed the report by the Secretariat,<sup>2</sup> which provided greater detail than had previously been available on progress towards the technical and financial targets of the Programme budget 2008–2009 as at 31 December 2008. The information was presented by strategic objective, major office and budget segment (WHO programmes, partnerships and collaborative arrangements, and outbreak and crisis response).
4. The Committee noted that technical implementation appeared to be “on track” for around half the Organization-wide expected results, with most of the rest “at risk” of not being achieved. Strategic objective 4 appeared to be “in trouble”. Financial implementation was just under 40% of the level set in the Programme budget 2008–2009; there were several reasons for this, including a lack of full financing. The Committee expressed concern at the levels of funding and implementation against budget in respect of strategic objectives 4, 7, 8, 9 and 10.
5. Concerns were voiced at the apparent disparity in available funding and extent of technical implementation across different strategic objectives, major offices and budget segments. The Committee asked for more details of technical implementation. The Committee noted the relatively well-resourced situation at headquarters and the under-resourced situation in most of the regional offices, in particular the Regional Office for Africa. The Committee also questioned to what extent the budget targets were realistic with respect to both expected income and implementation capacity.
6. The Secretariat acknowledged these concerns and explained that the situations described were largely determined by the nature of the voluntary contributions on which over 75% of WHO’s work depended. The Committee heard that several steps were being taken to redress the situation, with a particular focus on achieving results through WHO’s management model. The Secretariat’s efforts

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<sup>1</sup> See document EBPBAC10/1.

<sup>2</sup> See documents A62/26 and A62/26 Corr.1.

included the following: increasing dialogue with donors in order to secure flexible and/or fully aligned resources; continuing work on how best to allocate the resources available and manage the Core Voluntary Contributions Account; making better use of the Global Management System; conducting further work towards achieving the goal of a 70%/30% distribution of resources between the regions and headquarters; and strengthening staff capacity in regional and country offices.

7. The Committee noted these actions and asked to be provided with a comprehensive and concrete action plan at its next meeting. The plan should outline the necessary steps, including those mentioned above. The plan should be set in the context of the work of the Advisory Group on Financial Resources.

8. The Committee also requested that at its next meeting it should be provided by the Secretariat with a report on the options available to facilitate the management and alignment of those resources in a results-based management environment.

#### **RECOMMENDATION TO THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

9. The Committee recommended that the Health Assembly note the interim report on implementation of the Programme budget 2008–2009.

ANNEX

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES**

**Bahamas**

Dr M. Dahl-Regis (Chair)

**Bangladesh**

Mr S.A. Ali (alternate to Professor A.F.M.R. Haque)

**China**

Dr Liu Peilong (alternate to Dr Ren Minghui)

Dr Xing Jun (alternate)  
Ms Situ Sujian (alternate)  
Mr Teng Fei (alternate)

**Denmark**

Ms M. Kristensen (alternate to Mr J. Fisker)

Mrs A.C. Christensen (alternate)

**Hungary**

Dr M. Kökény

**Indonesia**

Dr W. Lukito (alternate to Dr S.F. Supari)

Dr A. Ismaini (alternate)  
Mr A. Somantri (alternate)  
Dr U.S. Sutarjo (alternate)

**Malawi**

Dr K. Kamoto

**Mali**

Mr I.O. Touré

**New Zealand**

Ms D. Roche (alternate to Mr T. Ryall)

Ms L. Cassels (alternate)

**United Arab Emirates**

Dr A.A. Bin Shakar

Mr S. Alhebsi (alternate)

**United States of America**

Ms A. Blackwood (alternate to the Board member)

Mr D. Hohman (alternate)

**Ex officio members**

Mr. N.S. de Silva (Chairman of the Executive Board)

**MEMBER STATES NOT MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Mr N. McFarlane (Australia)

Mr T. Poletti (Australia)

Mr P. Oldham (Canada)

Mr P. Blais (Canada)

Mrs H. Alarcon-Lopez (Colombia)

Ms J. Isaza Guevara (Colombia)

Ms B. Quacoe (Côte d'Ivoire)

Ms M. Abie (Côte d'Ivoire)

Mr M. Brejnik (Czech Republic)

Ms A. Chalupova (Czech Republic)

Mr C. Segura (Dominican Republic)

Mr A. Allo (France)

Mr C. Ramiro (Guatemala)

Mrs S. Hochstetter (Guatemala)

Miss A.I. Carrillo (Guatemala)

Dr T.M. Okeyo (Kenya)

Ms M. Toyota-Imamura (Japan)

Mr Y. Otake (Japan)

Mrs H. Arrinton Aviña (Mexico)

Mrs M.A. Jaquez (Mexico)

Mrs M.E. Coronado Martínez (Mexico)

Ms E. Loryn (Netherlands)

Mr A.G. Bashkin (Russian Federation)

Mr E.V. Kalugin (Russian Federation)

Ms N. Dladla (South Africa)

Dr W. Jayantha (Sri Lanka)

Ms M. Mallikaratchy (Sri Lanka)

Ms A. Molin Hellgren (Sweden)

Ms H. Widstam (Sweden)

Mr M. Eriksson (Sweden)

Ms C. Kitsell (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Mr J.L. Lobo (Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of)

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