

DECISIONS

EB134(1)¹ Follow-up to the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Secretariat on the follow-up to the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,²

- (1) endorsed the nine action plan indicators contained in the report on the consultation with Member States to conclude the work on the limited set of action plan indicators for the WHO global action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (2013–2020),³ recommending their adoption by the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly;
- (2) forwarded to the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly for its consideration the report of the formal meeting of Member States to complete the work on the terms of reference for the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, including a division of tasks and responsibilities for United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and other international organizations;⁴
- (3) requested the Director-General to convene a second formal meeting of Member States,⁵ to be held before the end of April 2014, in order to conclude the work on the development of terms of reference for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases,⁶ submitting the report of that meeting to the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly for its consideration.

(Third meeting, 21 January 2014)

EB134(2)¹ Maternal, infant and young child nutrition

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Secretariat on maternal, infant and young child nutrition,⁷

- (1) noted the report on: the progress in carrying out the comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition and achieving the six global nutrition targets endorsed by the World Health Assembly in resolution WHA65.6; the global strategy for infant

¹ See Annex 5 for the financial and administrative implications for the Secretariat of the adoption of the decision.

² Document EB134/14.

³ See document EB134/14 Annex 4 and appendix.

⁴ See document EB134/14 Annex 3 and appendix.

⁵ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

⁶ See document EB134/14 Annex 2 and appendix.

⁷ Document EB134/15.

and young-child feeding endorsed in resolution WHA55.25 in 2002; and the status of national measures to give effect to the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, adopted in resolution WHA34.22 in 1981 and updated through subsequent related World Health Assembly resolutions;

(2) recommended to the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly that it consider a decision:

(a) endorsing the seven indicators to monitor progress towards the achievement of the global targets as part of the core set of indicators of the global monitoring framework on maternal, infant and young child nutrition;

(b) requesting the Director-General to establish a working group composed of representatives and experts appointed by Member States and United Nations bodies in order to complete the work, before the end of 2014, on the development of the core set of indicators to monitor the comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition, building on “tracer” indicators for policy and programme implementation in health and other sectors that are relevant to the achievement of the global nutrition targets, as well as developing an extended set of indicators in order to track processes that have an impact on the global targets in specific country settings, for consideration by Member States at the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly;

(c) also requesting the Director-General to convene informal consultations with Member States¹ to complete the work, before the end of 2015, on risk assessment and management tools for conflicts of interest in nutrition, for consideration by Member States at the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly;

(d) noting the work carried out by the WHO Secretariat in response to resolution WHA65.6, in which the Director-General was requested to provide clarification and guidance on the inappropriate promotion of foods for infants and young children cited in resolution WHA63.23, taking into consideration the ongoing work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission; recalling resolution WHA63.23, in which Member States were urged to end inappropriate promotion of food for infants and young children; and requesting the Director-General to complete the work, before the end of 2015, on the development of recommendations for Member States on how to ensure appropriate marketing of complementary foods, for consideration by Member States at the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly;

(3) noted the decision of FAO Council in December 2013² requesting the FAO Secretariat “to work closely with the World Health Organization in developing a roadmap that would allow for both an intergovernmental process and consultations with civil society and private sector organizations”, taking into account the WHO rules and regulations concerning engagement with non-State actors, in order to develop an outcome document for the Second International Conference on Nutrition, containing general principles on how to reshape the food system to better respond to the needs of the world population, considering emerging health, nutritional and environmental challenges and a framework for action for different sectors, and further:

(a) requested the Director-General to work with the Director-General of FAO, taking into account the guidance of the Executive Board, in order to set up a joint working group

¹ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

² Report of the Council of FAO, Hundred and Forty-eighth Session, Rome, 2–6 December 2013. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; 2013 (CL 148/REP).

and to develop modalities for its work, so as to prepare, by the end of September 2014, a draft outcome document on the basis of a zero draft prepared by the two Secretariats;

(b) recommended that the joint working group have a balanced participation from both WHO and FAO and that WHO Member States be represented by one or two members from each WHO region, as well as by one of the two co-chairs of the joint working group;

(c) called for the development of the draft outcome document in a fully transparent manner, engaging with Member States through appropriate measures, including videoconferences and public web consultations;

(d) requested the Director-General to work with the Director-General of FAO to explore jointly the possibility of convening, within the available resources, one meeting of an open-ended working group of Member States for the finalization of the outcome document;

(e) further requested the Director-General to work jointly with the Director-General of FAO to ensure consultations with all relevant stakeholders, including other United Nations organizations working in the field of nutrition, nongovernmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, before the draft outcome document is submitted to the open-ended working group;

(f) requested the Director-General in addition to report, for further guidance, to the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly on WHO's role and the progress made in the preparation for the Second International Conference on Nutrition;

(g) further requested the Director-General to report to the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly on the outcome of the Second International Conference on Nutrition, through the Executive Board at its 136th session.

(Eighth meeting, 23 January 2014)

EB134(3) WHO reform: methods of work of the governing bodies

The Executive Board, having considered the report by the Secretariat on options for improved decision-making by the governing bodies,¹

(1) endorsed the steps taken by the Secretariat to improve capacity-building and training for members of the Executive Board and its Officers;

(2) approved the proposal to introduce webcasting for future public sessions of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee, and of the Executive Board, to all internet users through a link on the WHO website;

(3) recommended that the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly decide to introduce webcasting for future public meetings of its committees A and B, as well as of its plenary meetings, to all internet users through a link on the WHO website, subject to resolution of any relevant technical issues and to the availability of financial resources;

¹ Documents EB134/6 and EB134/6 Add. 1.

(4) endorsed the steps taken by the Secretariat to minimize the Organization's use of paper documents, and approved the proposed measures outlined in paragraph 9 of the report contained in document EB134/6;

(5) requested that the Director-General continue to develop additional, transparent means for the Secretariat to communicate with Member States;

(6) recommended that the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly approve the recommendations of the Secretariat, contained in document EB134/6 Add.1, to rent a cost-effective and secure electronic voting system for the nomination and appointment of the Director-General, and to test such a system in advance through mock votes by the governing bodies prior to the election of the next Director-General;

(7) amended the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, with effect from the closure of its 134th session, as follows:

New Rule 28*bis*:

“Proposals for resolutions or decisions to be considered by the Board relating to items of the agenda may be introduced until the close of the first day of the session. However, if a session is scheduled for two days or less, such proposals may be introduced no later than 48 hours prior to the opening of the session. The Board may, if it deems it appropriate, permit the late introduction of such proposals.”

New Rule 28*ter*:

“Proposals and amendments related to items on the agenda shall normally be introduced in writing and handed to the Director-General, who shall circulate copies to the delegations. Except as may be decided otherwise by the Board, no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any meeting of the Board unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations at least 24 hours previously. The Chairman may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments, even though they have not been circulated or have only been circulated the same day.”;

(8) recommended that the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly amend the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, with effect from the closure of that session, as follows:

Delete Rule 49 and replace Rule 48 with the following text:

“Formal proposals relating to items of the agenda may be introduced until the first day of a regular session of the Health Assembly and no later than two days prior to the opening of a special session. All such proposals shall be referred to the committee to which the item of the agenda has been allocated, except if the item is considered directly in a plenary meeting.”;

(9) recalled the importance of the requirement in Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board that documents for sessions of the Executive Board be dispatched by the Director-General not less than six weeks before the commencement of a regular session of the Board;

(10) recommended that the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly decide that progress reports shall henceforth be considered only by the Health Assembly and no longer by the Executive Board;

(11) required that the explanatory memoranda stipulated by Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board take into account the criteria established by the Executive Board in resolution EB121.R1 and identify linkages to the general programme of work and the programme budget;

(12) required also that the supporting statements stipulated by Rule 10 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board for proposals of an urgent nature take into account the criteria established by the Executive Board in resolution EB121.R1, and include an explanation of the nature of the urgency as well as of the potential risks of deferral or exclusion;

(13) required further that the explanatory memoranda and supporting statements be provided to the Officers and members of the Executive Board, and be made available on the WHO web-based platform to all Member States and Associate Members; and in addition, that the minutes of the meetings of the Officers of the Board under Rule 8 be made available on that platform to all Member States and Associate Members;

(14) agreed to review the results of the additional procedures to improve methods of work at its 138th session.

(Twelfth meeting, 24 January 2014)

EB134(4) WHO reform: strategic resource allocation

The Executive Board, having considered the report by the Secretariat on strategic resource allocation¹ and, in particular, options for engaging Member States in developing this further,

(1) endorsed the proposal by the Director-General to establish a working group made up of one member of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee from each region, and under the leadership of the Chairman of that Committee;

(2) requested that the Director-General develop the proposal for strategic resource allocation further, using external expertise where necessary;

(3) also requested that the Director-General facilitate the work of the working group through the holding of face-to-face meeting(s) and/or other means such as video-conferencing, so that the working group can consider the next iteration(s) of the proposal and provide guidance to the Secretariat as necessary;

(4) further requested that the Director-General use appropriate means, such as briefings to Member States, to provide regular updates on the ongoing work;

¹ Document EB134/10.

(5) endorsed an extension of the twentieth meeting of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee, originally scheduled to be held on 15 and 16 May 2014,¹ by one day, in order to allow ample time for consideration of the proposal for strategic resource allocation to be submitted to the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly.

(Twelfth meeting, 24 January 2014)

EB134(5) Follow-up of the report of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination – Health research and development demonstration projects

The Executive Board, having considered the report on the follow-up of the report of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination – Health research and development demonstration projects,² taking into account the additional information requested by the Global Technical Consultative Meeting of Member States on the Identification of Health Research and Development Demonstration Projects and provided by the proponents of the 7+1 demonstration projects that were shortlisted by the Global Technical Consultative Meeting of Experts on the Identification of Health Research and Development Demonstration Projects,

(1) requested that the Director-General consider the demonstration projects in the order listed in document EB134/27 and, taking into account the additional information received, with the participation of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Consultative Expert Working Group, and one Member State from each region, as observers, as appropriate, start convening virtual or direct meetings with stakeholders interested in funding and/or implementing the projects; with those meetings aiming to develop the project plan and mobilize the financial resources necessary for implementation of the projects;

(2) also requested that the Director-General monitor the progress made in implementation and, where appropriate, consider coordinating or combining projects that are closely interrelated or target the same disease or type of product, in order to maximize their effectiveness;

(3) further requested that the Director-General develop, with respect to the mandate of resolution WHA66.22, relevant indicators to measure success in the process and submit them to the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly.

(Twelfth meeting, 24 January 2014)

EB134(6) Addressing the global challenge of violence, in particular against women and girls

The Board took note of the ongoing discussions on the draft resolution under agenda item 8.4 and encouraged Member States to finalize this work, in order for it to be duly considered by the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly.

(Thirteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

¹ See decision EB133(10).

² Document EB134/27.

EB134(7) Review of nongovernmental organizations in official relations with WHO

The Executive Board, having considered and noted the report of its Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations¹ concerning the review of one third of the nongovernmental organizations in official relations with WHO, and follow-up to decision EB132(9), reached the decisions set out below,

- (1) maintained in official relations with WHO the nongovernmental organizations whose names are followed by an asterisk in the Annex to the report, noting with appreciation their collaboration with WHO and commending their continuing dedication to the work of the Organization;
- (2) deferred the review of relations with the International Union for Health Promotion and Education, the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices affecting the Health of Women and Children, and the World Psychiatric Association until its 136th session, at which time reports would be considered either on agreed plans for collaboration or on status of relations;
- (3) deferred, until its 136th session and for a second time, the review of relations with CMC – Churches' Action for Health and requested further clarification of its constitutional arrangements and the provision of an agreed plan for collaboration with WHO;
- (4) maintained the Council on Health Research for Development in official relations with WHO, noting that the Council on Health Research for Development and the Global Forum for Health Research had been merged and operated as one single organization (the Council on Health Research for Development) and that plans for collaboration had been agreed;
- (5) maintained Global Health Council, Inc., the International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants, the International Federation of Hospital Engineering, the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association, and OXFAM in official relations with WHO, noting that plans for collaboration had been agreed.

(Fourteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

EB134(8) Award of the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize Committee, awarded the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize for 2014 to Professor Abla Mehio Sibai from Lebanon for her significant contribution to public health in Lebanon, in particular in the areas of ageing and noncommunicable diseases. The laureate will receive the equivalent of 2500 Swiss francs in United States dollars.

(Fourteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

¹ Document EB134/44.

EB134(9) Award of the Jacques Parisot Foundation Fellowship

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Jacques Parisot Foundation Selection Panel, awarded the Jacques Parisot Foundation Fellowship for 2014 to Dr Htin Zaw Soe (Myanmar). The laureate will receive US\$ 5000.

(Fourteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

EB134(10) Award of the Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Prize

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Selection Panel, awarded the Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Prize for 2014 to Professor Zulfiqar Bhutta from Pakistan for his long-standing career in global work on child and newborn survival and health, and in improving maternal and child health in his own country. The laureate will receive US\$ 20 000.

(Fourteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

EB134(11) Award of the Sasakawa Health Prize

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Sasakawa Health Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Sasakawa Health Prize for 2014 to the Leprosy Control Foundation, Inc./Dominican Institute of Dermatology and Skin Surgery “Dr Hubert Bogaert Diaz” of the Dominican Republic, which has greatly contributed to the reduction of the rates of incidence of leprosy in the Dominican Republic. The laureate, as an organization, will receive US\$ 40 000.

(Fourteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

EB134(12) Award of the United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Selection Panel, awarded the United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize for 2014 to the National Institute for Health Research of Costa Rica, which is being honoured for the contribution made to scientific research in the fields of individual and collective ageing, genetic and infectious diseases, early detection and diagnosis of gastric cancer, which has a high prevalence in Costa Rica, and genotoxic damage from occupational exposure to pesticides. The laureate will receive US\$ 20 000.

(Fourteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

EB134(13) Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2014 jointly to Professor Sinata Koulla-Shiro from Cameroon for her dedication and outstanding contribution to the research and management of communicable diseases, and clinical microbiology in bacterial infections, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, and to the Czech Society of Cardiology of the Czech Republic for its success in improving standards of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular diseases. The laureates will each receive US\$ 50 000.

(Fourteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

EB134(14) Provisional agenda for the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Director-General on the provisional agenda for the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly,¹ and recalling its earlier decision that the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly should be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, opening on Monday, 19 May 2014, and closing no later than Saturday, 24 May 2014, approved the provisional agenda of the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly, as amended.

(Fourteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

EB134(15) Date and place of the 135th session of the Executive Board

The Executive Board decided that its 135th session should be convened on 26 and 27 May 2014, in Geneva.

(Fourteenth meeting, 25 January 2014)

¹ Document EB134/46.