

Provisional agenda (annotated)

1. Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur

2. Opening of the session

The Board will receive the report of the Chair of the informal open-ended working group of Member States, in accordance with its decision, contained in the summary record of the Executive Board at its 137th session, second meeting, section 2 (document EB137/2015/REC/1).

3. Adoption of the agenda

4. Outcome of the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly

5. Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board

The Board will receive at the opening of its session the report of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee, which is scheduled to be held on 19 and 20 May 2016.

6. Technical and health matters

6.1 Dementia¹

At the request of Member States, the Secretariat has developed a report outlining the following: the epidemiology and burden of dementia; the strategies undertaken within the health and social sectors that are proving to be effective; and WHO's activities, and other international efforts, to meet the global challenge posed by dementia. The Board is invited to take note of the report and provide further strategic guidance.

6.2 Improving access to assistive technology¹

At the request of a Member State, the Secretariat will report to the Board on the urgent actions needed to improve access to assistive technology (e.g. wheelchairs, hearing/low-vision aids, pill organizers and communication boards), especially in the context of disability, an ageing population and growing burden of noncommunicable diseases. The report will describe WHO's work to support Member States in improving access to assistive products consisting of activities in four interdependent areas: policy framework; priority assistive products list; comprehensive training package; single-window, integrated service provision model.

¹ Deferred from the Board's 138th session in line with the decisions agreed by the Officers of the Executive Board at their teleconference held on Tuesday 22 September 2015 (see Note in document EB138/1 (annotated)).

6.3 Development of a new Health Assembly resolution and action plan for prevention of deafness and hearing loss¹

At the request of Member States, the Secretariat will provide information on the progress made towards prevention and management of deafness and hearing loss. The report will describe actions taken since the adoption of resolution WHA48.9 in 1995. The Board will be invited to consider a draft resolution taking into account this progress and suggesting next steps.

6.4 Health and climate change¹

At the request of a Member State, the Secretariat will report on the implications of the Paris Agreement, adopted in December 2015 by the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Paris, 30 November–11 December 2015), and on its plans to scale up support to Member States on: health resilience to climate risks; linking climate change, air pollution, and sustainable development; and systematic measurement and reporting of country progress to global health and climate change governing bodies.

6.5 International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems: update on the eleventh revision

The eleventh revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-11) is well under way. The report by the Secretariat will provide an overview of the revision process and the achievements recorded to date. Proposals for the finalization of the ICD-11 are discussed, including a revision conference to be held in Tokyo, Japan, in 2016.

6.6 mHealth: use of mobile wireless technologies for public health

mHealth technologies have the potential to revolutionize how populations interact with national health services. The technology has been shown to increase access to health information, services and skills, as well as promote positive changes in health behaviours to prevent the onset of acute and chronic diseases. In order to realize these efficiency gains, Member States are seeking to identify standardized approaches for applying mHealth technologies.

At the request of a Member State, the Secretariat has put forward a technical report on how mHealth can be institutionalised as a digital tool to advance the Sustainable Development Goals. The Board is invited to take note of the report and provide further strategic guidance.

7. Management and financial matters

7.1 Evaluation: annual report

In line with decision EB131(1) (2012) and the evaluation policy adopted therein, there is an annual report on evaluation to the Board through the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee. The report describes progress made in the implementation of the evaluation policy and the Organization-wide evaluation workplans for 2014–2015 and 2016–2017 and documents organizational learning linked to the findings and recommendations of recent evaluations. The Board is invited to note the report.

¹ Deferred from the Board's 138th session in line with the decisions agreed by the Officers of the Executive Board at their teleconference held on Tuesday 22 September 2015 (see Note in document EB138/1 (annotated)).

7.2 Committees of the Executive Board: filling of vacancies

This is a standing item.

7.3 Process for the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization: date of the candidates' forum

In May 2013 the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly adopted resolution WHA66.18, in which it established a candidates' forum open to all Member States and Associate Members, as a non-decision-making platform, for candidates to make themselves and their vision known to Member States on an equal basis. The report will describe the current legal framework applicable to the candidates' forum and will propose that the Board consider deciding on which day the candidates' forum will open.

8. Staffing matters: statement by the representative of the WHO staff associations

This is a standing item.

9. Matters for information: report on meetings of expert committees and study groups

In compliance with Regulation 4.23 of the Regulations for Expert Advisory Panels and Committees, the Director-General submits to the Board for its consideration her report on meetings of expert committees and study groups, including a summary of the recommendations contained in the reports of expert committees and her observations on their significance for public health policies and implications for the Organization's programmes.

10. Future sessions of the Executive Board and the Health Assembly

This is a standing item.

11. Closure of the session

Note:

1. *At their consultation with the Director-General on Thursday, 24 March 2016, convened in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Officers of the Board made the following recommendations on the draft provisional agenda that had been transmitted to Member States for comment on 11 February 2016.*

To include one additional item proposed by Member States under item 6, Technical and health matters:

- *mHealth: use of mobile wireless technologies for public health*

To remove the following two items:

6.3 *(Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules [if any])*

7.2 *(Amendments to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules [if any])*

This recommendation was made on the basis that there were no amendments to discuss.

2. *The Officers of the Board, in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, also made the following recommendation:*

- *With regard to an additional item on noma, proposed by Member States, the Officers of the Executive Board recommended that the subject be included in regional discussions as it would benefit from consideration at the regional level.*

3. *The Officers of the Executive Board also agreed to invite the Office of the Legal Counsel to provide them with a briefing. This enabled them to receive an update on the Report of the Chair of the informal open-ended working group of Member States, which was set up as part of the process agreed upon by the Executive Board at its 137th session and recorded in the summary records of that session (second meeting, section 2). The Office of the Legal Counsel explained that the Executive Board was expected to receive the report of the Chair at its May session; a place therefore needed to be found on the Board's agenda in order to allow due consideration of the matter. The Chair's suggestion was that the report should be received immediately after the opening of the session and that the adoption of the agenda should be made a separate item. The Chair of the Working Group also proposed an approach to what was a sensitive subject, namely: that the only reference to the matter would be on the annotated agenda. Discussion of the issue, together with the mandate of the Working Group, would end with the Report of the Chair, on the understanding that Member States would have an opportunity to give their views once the Report had been delivered. The Officers of the Executive Board agreed to support the proposed approach.*

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