Provisional agenda (annotated)

1. Opening of the session

2. Adoption of the agenda

3. Report by the Director-General

4. Post of Director-General
   4.1 Nomination of candidates
   4.2 Draft contract
   4.3 Options for the conduct of the election on the basis of paper-based voting

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-fifth meeting of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee, which is scheduled to be held from 18 to 20 January 2017.

6. Report of the regional committees to the Executive Board

In 2012, in decision WHA65(9), the Health Assembly endorsed the proposal that the chairpersons of the regional committees routinely submit to the Board summary reports of the committees’ deliberations. The Board will be invited to consider the recommendations of the regional committees.

7. Preparedness, surveillance and response
   7.1 Health emergencies
      • WHO response in severe, large-scale emergencies

This item will cover information on all Public Health Emergencies of International Concern, WHO Grade 3 and United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee Level 3 emergencies in which WHO took action between 1 January and 31 December 2016.

• Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee

Further to the recommendations of the Ebola Interim Assessment Panel and the Director-General’s Advisory Group on Reform of WHO’s Work in Outbreaks and Emergencies with Health and Humanitarian Consequences, as well as the United Nations Secretary-General’s High-level Panel on the Global Response to Health Crises, the Director-General has established an Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee to monitor the performance
of the WHO Health Emergencies Programme and provide guidance. The Secretariat will transmit the first report containing the activities and recommendations by the Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee.

- Research and development for potentially epidemic diseases

At the request of a Member State, the Secretariat will provide information on the progress made to improve research and development for potentially epidemic diseases. The report will describe activities undertaken through the WHO research and development blueprint mechanism in order to reduce the time between the declaration of a public health emergency of international concern and the availability of effective tests, vaccines and medicines that can be used to save lives and avert a large-scale crisis.

- Health workforce coordination in emergencies with health consequences

Recent history shows that the world is not fully prepared to prevent, detect and respond to large-scale health emergencies. As part of a broader capacity-building agenda, the international community has prioritized improving emergency coordination mechanisms. The present report, submitted at the request of a Member State, will describe the work WHO is undertaking at international, regional and country levels to improve coordination during health emergencies. It will also provide information on priorities and resource implications for WHO’s Health Emergencies Programme. The Board is invited to note the report.

7.2 Antimicrobial resistance

As requested by Member States during the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly, this report will outline the process to further elaborate options for a global development and stewardship framework on antimicrobial resistance. It will also contain updates on progress made in implementing the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance, adopted by the Health Assembly in resolution WHA68.7 (2015), and on the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance.

7.3 Poliomyelitis

The report will provide summary information on the following: the impact of national emergency action plans to interrupt circulation of endemic poliovirus transmission; measures to limit international spread of polio under the auspices of the Public Health Emergency of International Concern; the phased removal of oral polio vaccines and global containment activities; processes to ensure the transition planning of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative; and the financial implications of the effort.


- Draft global implementation plan

In line with decision WHA69(14) (2016), the Secretariat will provide the draft global implementation plan for the recommendations of the Review Committee, taking into consideration the comments from the Regional Committees. The draft plan includes immediate planning to improve delivery of the International Health Regulations (2005) and indicates a way forward for dealing with new proposals.

- Public health implications of the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol

The Nagoya Protocol was adopted in 2010 by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its tenth meeting (Nagoya, Japan, 18–29 October 2010). The Protocol has as its objective the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources. The inclusion of human pathogens is now within the scope of the Convention, and the Secretariat’s report will present information on its review of the public health implications of the Protocol.
7.5 Review of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework

The relevant provisions of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework require that the Framework will be reviewed by 2016 with a view to proposing revisions, as appropriate, to the Health Assembly in 2017, through the Executive Board. The Review Group is composed of eight experts and will focus its report on achievements recorded since 2011, effectiveness in global preparedness, and proposed changes for advancing the goals of the Framework.

8. Health systems

8.1 Human resources for health and implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations’ High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth

The High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General, delivered its report in September 2016. The report lends momentum to the implementation of various processes mandated by Health Assembly resolutions, namely: the Global Strategy on Human Resources for Health: Workforce 2030, with particular attention to the WHO Global Code of Practice and transforming health workforce education. The Secretariat’s report will provide an overview of key points and actions.

8.2 Principles for global consensus on the donation and management of blood, blood components and medical products of human origin

In accordance with decision EB136(2) (2015), the Secretariat will present a report that summarizes a set of guiding principles for the donation and management of medical products of human origin. The proposed framework includes a set of 10 principles, each with their specific strategic approaches and policy options, in the following areas: good governance mechanisms; and common tools to ensure quality, safety and traceability, as well as equitable access and availability.

8.3 Addressing the global shortage of medicines and vaccines

Following appropriate consultation and communication to guide further development in this area of work, the report will set out proposed technical definitions as requested in resolution WHA69.25 (2016), including a systematic identification of essential medicines and vaccines that are at risk for shortages.

8.4 Evaluation and review of the global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property

In May 2015, the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly adopted resolution WHA68.18, deciding, inter alia, to undertake a comprehensive evaluation and overall programme review of the global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property separately in a staggered manner. In line with resolution WHA68.18, and prior to its consideration by the Seventieth World Health Assembly, the Secretariat will submit the report\(^1\) of the comprehensive evaluation for consideration by the Executive Board at its 140th session. The Secretariat will also provide an update on progress in relation to the overall programme review. The Executive Board will be invited to note the Secretariat’s report, to approve the terms of reference for the overall programme review and to consider the report of the comprehensive evaluation of the global strategy and plan of action on public health innovation and intellectual property.

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\(^1\) The Secretariat will provide the executive summary of the comprehensive evaluation to the Board in all six official languages and the full report will be made available on the website of the Evaluation Office in English, French and Spanish.
8.5 Follow-up of the report of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination

The Secretariat report, prepared in response to requests made by the Health Assembly in resolution WHA69.23 (2016), and in line with the work of the United Nations Secretary-General’s High-level Panel on Access to Medicines, will present the following: terms of reference and a costed workplan of the Global Observatory on Health Research and Development; a proposal with goals and an operational plan for a voluntary pooled fund to support research and development; and terms of reference for a WHO Expert Committee on Health Research and Development.

8.6 Member State mechanism on substandard/spurious/falsely-labelled/falsified/counterfeit medical products

The fifth meeting of the Member State mechanism on substandard/spurious/falsely-labelled/falsified/counterfeit (SSFFC) medical products was held in Geneva, Switzerland in November 2016, and a range of activities for the period 2016–2017 were discussed. The Secretariat provided information about the review of the mechanism, scheduled for early 2017. The meeting outcome document will form the basis for reporting to the Executive Board.

8.7 Promoting the health of migrants

At the request of Member States, the Secretariat report will summarize the current global context and the health challenges associated with migrants and refugees. It will also describe the Secretariat’s actions at the global and regional levels to meet these challenges, and outline priority actions for the future in relation to resolution WHA61.17 (2008).

9. Communicable diseases

9.1 Global vaccine action plan

The Executive Board will consider the Executive Summary of the report of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on immunization, which provides an assessment of progress made towards achieving the goals of the global vaccine action plan. The present report is of particular significance as it falls at the mid-term of the period of the action plan (2010–2020). It will therefore include key recommendations for countries and stakeholders for the remainder of the Decade of Vaccines (2011–2020).

9.2 Global vector control response

Significant recent upsurges in vector-borne diseases, against the background of a persistent global malaria burden, highlight the challenges facing vector control implementation. There is a critical need to build capacity in order to improve impact and mitigate potential challenges, including those posed by insecticide resistance, climate change, rapid urbanization and increased global travel and trade. The draft global vector control response will provide comprehensive technical and strategic guidance for establishing sustainable vector control systems.

10. Noncommunicable diseases

10.1 Preparation for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, to be held in 2018

In response to resolution WHA69.6 (2016), the Secretariat will report to the Board on the status of its work on two outstanding assignments given by the Health Assembly and the United Nations General Assembly in preparation for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, namely: (i) work on a draft updated Appendix 3 of WHO’s global action plan for
the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases 2013–2020; and (ii) development of a draft approach that can be used to register and publish contributions of the private sector, philanthropic entities, civil society and academic institutions to the achievement of the nine voluntary targets for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases. The Secretariat will also submit a proposed workplan 2018–2019 for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, in line with the mechanism’s terms of reference. The Board will be invited to endorse the updated Appendix 3, to note the workplan and to provide guidance on how the Secretariat may complete its work on the development of an approach.

10.2 Draft global action plan on the public health response to dementia

In line with decision EB139(1) (2016), the Secretariat will submit to the Board for its consideration a draft global action plan on the public health response to dementia. The Board will be invited to endorse the global action plan.

10.3 Public health dimension of the world drug problem

In response to decision WHA69(15) (2016), the Secretariat will submit to the Board a report that will include information on the health system response that will be required in the context of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the world drug problem held in April 2016, particularly in order to implement the outcome document, entitled “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem.” (resolution S-30/1). The Board will be invited to note the report and provide further guidance.

10.4 Report of the Commission on Ending childhood obesity: implementation plan

In response to decision WHA69(12) (2016), the Secretariat will submit to the Board a draft implementation plan to guide further action on the recommendations included in the report of the Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity. The Board will be invited to endorse the implementation plan.

10.5 Cancer prevention and control in the context of an integrated approach

At the request of a Member State, the Secretariat has developed a report outlining the disease burden and trends in relation to cancer; national cancer strategies undertaken as part of national multisectoral efforts to address noncommunicable diseases that are proving to be effective; and WHO’s activities, and other international efforts, to meet the global challenge posed by cancer. The Board will be invited to note the report and to consider the draft resolution contained therein.

11. Promoting health through the life course

11.1 Progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

In line with resolution WHA69.11 (2016), the Secretariat will report to the Board on progress made in translating the broad Agenda for Sustainable Development into strategic and practical approaches for health. The report will also provide an opportunity to discuss specific actions that WHO can take to implement the health-related Sustainable Development Goals. Also, as requested by the Health Assembly, the report will contain information on implementation of resolution WHA69.1 as a contribution to the achievement of the health-related targets in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

11.2 The role of the health sector in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management towards the 2020 goal and beyond

Resolution WHA69.4 (2016) requested the Director-General, inter alia, to develop, in consultation with Member States, bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, a road map for the health sector at
the national, regional and international levels. The report will present the proposed road map for consideration by the Executive Board.

11.3 Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health (2016–2030): adolescents’ health

A report will be submitted in line with resolution WHA69.2 (2016), in which the Health Assembly requested, inter alia, regular reports on progress towards women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health. The report, which will have adolescent health as its special theme, will also highlight progress made in respect of monitoring and accountability.

12. Programme and budget matters

12.1 Financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2016–2017: update

The Secretariat will present a report on the financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2016–2017.

12.2 Proposed programme budget 2018–2019

Following review and discussion by the regional committees, a revised draft of the Proposed programme budget 2018–2019 has been prepared for consideration by the Board.

13. Financial matters

13.1 Scale of assessments for 2018–2019

The Board is invited to consider the scale of assessments for 2018–2019, together with a draft resolution recommending adoption of the scale by the Seventieth World Health Assembly.

13.2 Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules [if any]

14. Management and governance matters

14.1 Overview of WHO reform implementation

The Secretariat will submit a report to the Board providing the following: an overview of the current status of reform; a review of progress made in the three broad reform workstreams; a reference to the indicators that have been established to measure achievement of the reform objectives. The approach taken in the report will reflect a transition towards framing achievements in the context of the entire reform programme.

14.2 Governance reform: follow-up to decision WHA69(8) (2016)

The report will provide an update on the implementation of decision WHA69(8) based on the agreed recommendations of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting on Governance Reform, which made requests of the Officers of the Executive Board, the Director-General, the Regional Directors and the Regional Committees, particularly in relation to the methods of work of the governing bodies and improvement of the alignment of governance at the three levels of the Organization.

14.3 Engagement with non-State actors

Resolution WHA69.10 (2016) requests the Director-General to report on the implementation of the Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors to the Executive Board at each of its January sessions under a standing
agenda item, through the Programme Budget and Administration Committee. Paragraph 68(a)(i) of the Framework’s overarching framework refers to the “consideration of the annual report on engagement with non-State actors submitted by the Director-General”. Further, paragraphs 60, 61 and 64 mandate the Board, through its Programme Budget and Administration Committee, to consider applications for admittance of non-State actors into official relations and to review collaboration with one third of the non-State actors in official relations in order to decide whether to maintain their official relations.

14.4 Reports of committees of the Executive Board

- Foundations and awards

The Board will consider the reports of the selection panels for the following prizes to be awarded in 2017:

The Dr Lee Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health, the Sasakawa Health Prize and the United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize. The Board will be invited to approve the report of the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee.

14.5 Independent Expert Oversight Advisory Committee: membership renewal [if any]

14.6 Provisional agenda of the Seventieth World Health Assembly and date and place of the 141st session of the Executive Board

15. Staffing matters

15.1 Appointment of the Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean

The document will contain the Regional Committee’s proposal to the Board for the appointment of the Regional Director.

15.2 Statement by the representative of the WHO staff associations

15.3 Human resources: update

The report will provide an update on the implementation of the Organization-wide human resources strategy. It will include an annex on the evolution of staffing in the polio programme and associated issues for the coming years.

- Criteria and principles for secondments from nongovernmental organizations, philanthropic foundations and academic institutions

In response to resolution WHA69.10 (2016), a report will be submitted to the Board setting out proposed criteria and principles to be used in evaluating the suitability of secondments from non-State actors.

15.4 Amendments to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules

Amendments to the Staff Rules made by the Director-General to implement the United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/244 (2015) are submitted for confirmation by the Board in accordance with Staff Regulation 12.2. Proposed amendments to the Staff Regulations are presented for consideration by the Board for submission to the Seventieth World Health Assembly.
15.5 Report of the International Civil Service Commission

A report will be submitted to the Board for its consideration containing details of the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission to the United Nations General Assembly.

16. Matters for information

16.1 Reports of advisory bodies

- Expert committees and study groups

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

In a second report, the Secretariat will provide details of both meetings and membership of expert committees that met in 2016.

17. Closure of the session

Note:

1. In accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Director-General and the Officers of the Executive Board met by teleconference on Wednesday 28 September, to review the draft provisional agenda of the 140th session of the Board that had been circulated to Member States on 20 June 2016.

2. In respect of a new item and adjustment proposed by the Secretariat, the Officers of the Board agreed:

- to defer the item on malaria eradication to the Executive Board’s 141st session in May 2017;

- to accept for addition to the provisional agenda for the Executive Board’s 140th session, under the section on Promoting Health through the life-course, an item entitled “Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ health: adolescents’ health”, which should have been included on the draft Provisional agenda for the Board’s 140th session, which Member States had received in June 2016.

3. In respect of existing agenda items, the Officers of the Board agreed:

- to amend the title of the existing item on Human resources for health, changing it to read “Human resources for health and implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth”;

- to present, as separate items on the provisional agenda of the 140th session of the Executive Board the reviews – currently presented under a single item – of (i) the Follow-up of the report of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination and (ii) the Member States mechanism on substandard/spurious/falsely-labelled/falsified/counterfeit medical products. In that way, the subjects would be delinked from review and evaluation of Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property.
4. In respect of the new items proposed by Member States, the Officers of the Board agreed:

- to accept for addition on the provisional agenda of the 140th session of the Executive Board an item entitled “Coordination of humanitarian emergencies of international concern”. The Officers gave their agreement with the proviso that the Secretariat’s report should give due consideration to funding and staffing – both current and future – at each level of the Organization.

- to merge with the existing item on the Global action plan on antimicrobial resistance a proposed item on “Sepsis”. In that way, the two matters could be considered together.

- to combine and treat as a single new item the proposals for items on “Promoting health of fragile and vulnerable populations, communities and individuals, such as migrants”, and “Migration and health”.

- to accept for addition on the provisional agenda of the 140th session of the Board an item on cancer, with the proviso that it be entitled “Cancer prevention and control in the context of an integrated approach”.

- to defer to the Board’s session in May 2017 consideration of the proposed new item entitled “Revitalizing physical activity for health”.

- to defer to the Board’s session in January 2018 consideration of the proposed new items entitled (i) “Improving access to assistive technology”, (ii) mHealth and (iii) Global snakebite burden.

5. The Officers of the Board, in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, also recommended not to include on the provisional agenda of the 140th session of the Board the following items proposed by Member States:

(i) an item entitled “International recognition of credits in development of the continuing education of health professionals”;

(ii) an item entitled “Kids Save Lives”. The Officers of the Board concurred with the Secretariat’s view that the next steps for building support for the initiative should involve other avenues;

(iii) an item entitled “Access to medicines: report of the United Nations Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines”;

(iv) an item entitled “Regulatory system strengthening for medical products: acceleration and follow-up of implementation”. The Officers took this view that no separate discussion is warranted at this time since the first progress report on implementation of resolution WHA67.20, which covered the same subject, would be considered by the Seventieth World Health Assembly in May 2017;

(v) an item entitled “Accelerated action for global measles and rubella eradication”. In the view of the Officers, the matter, which ought to concern elimination rather than eradication, could be given consideration under the existing item on the Global Vaccine Action Plan;

(vi) an item entitled “Rheumatic heart disease”. Given that the subject was not a major concern in all regions, it was asked whether a regional rather than global approach might be more suitable;

(vii) an item entitled “Developing a global action plan for the management and treatment of health care waste”. The Officers agreed that it was better to wait for the report to the Seventieth World Health Assembly that had been requested in resolution WHA69.4.