



**World Health  
Organization**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD  
140th session  
Provisional agenda item 14.2**

**EB140/40  
19 December 2016**

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

The Director-General has the honour to transmit to the Executive Board for its consideration the proposals developed by the Officers of the Board (see Annex) in accordance with paragraph 3 of decision WHA69(8), “Decision based on the agreed recommendations of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting on Governance Reform”.

## ANNEX

### REPORT BY THE OFFICERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### Criteria for the inclusion of items on the provisional agenda of the Executive Board

1. The Health Assembly in decision WHA69(8) based on the agreed recommendations of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting on Governance Reform decided “to request the Bureau of the Executive Board, taking into account inputs from Member States,<sup>1</sup> to review the criteria currently applied in considering items for inclusion on the provisional agenda of the Board,<sup>2</sup> and to develop proposals for new and/or revised criteria for the consideration of the 140th session of the Executive Board”.
2. The Officers of the Board met and reviewed the criteria for additional items on the Board’s provisional agenda, which were agreed upon by the governing bodies in resolution EB121.R1 (2007) and decision WHA65(9) (2012), taking into account inputs provided by Member States throughout the governance reform process.
3. Based on such review, the Officers of the Board have developed a revised set of five major criteria and a non-exhaustive list of factors relating thereto that the Board is invited to consider in order to improve the selection process of agenda items. The proposed criteria are presented in the Appendix to this report.
4. Furthermore, the Board may wish to consider establishing an objective and transparent tool for the prioritization of proposals, which would support the Officers in the implementation of the criteria. Such tool would be without prejudice to the Officers’ discretion in accepting proposals and recommending the deferral or exclusion of proposals received.
5. The tool provides a relative weighting to the various factors that will be used by the Bureau members regarding inclusion of a proposed item in the agenda of the following Executive Board. The weightings have been determined through a process whereby all Officers of the Board were asked to assign a score, from 1 to 5, to each of the five major criteria, with 5 being the most important one and 1 being the least important one. The Officers were also asked to assign a score, from 1 to 4, to each of the factors listed under each major criterion, with 4 being the most important one and 1 being the least important one. Finally, a weighting score was generated by multiplying the score assigned to each criterion by the scores assigned to the factors relating thereto. The outcome of the process providing the weighting score for each of the factors can be found in document EB140/40 Add.1.
6. In order to facilitate evaluation of the proposals by the Officers of the Board, Member States will be requested to submit their proposals in the format of the proposed new criteria and the determining factors. The Secretariat will provide the necessary template for submitting such proposals, and the proposals not submitted in the format of the template provided will not be considered by the Bureau. The Secretariat will also be able to provide written guidance to assist Member States in filling in the template.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at <http://apps.who.int/gb/mscp/mscp.html> (accessed 9 May 2016).

<sup>2</sup> See decision WHA65(9) and resolution EB121.R1.

7. All the proposals received will be scored by the Officers of the Board in line with the determined weightings for the various factors and returned to the Secretariat via email. The compilation of the average of the scores assigned to each proposal by the Officers of the Board will be done by the Secretariat in advance of the teleconference among the Officers of the Board and the Director-General at which the provisional agenda of the Board is prepared in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board. In determining the provisional agenda of the Executive Board, the Bureau will thus have at its disposal an objective weighting of each of the proposals under consideration which it can not only use to determine which proposals warrant to be dealt with by the Board but also to have an indication of the respective priority for consideration.

## Appendix

**PROPOSED CRITERIA AND FACTORS FOR THE INCLUSION OF ITEMS ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD****Criterion A The proposal addresses a global public health issue****Factors to consider under this criterion include:**

- Factor A.1 The current health situation including changes, if any, in demographic and epidemiological trends.
- Factor A.2 The public health burden it has at global/regional and country level.
- Factor A.3 The extent to which it addresses an urgent, emerging or neglected health issue.
- Factor A.4 The extent to which it is perceived as being of a global public health threat.

**Criterion B The proposal addresses a new subject within the scope of WHO****Factors to consider under this criterion include:**

- Factor B.1 The proposal falls within the mandate and capacities of WHO.
- Factor B.2 The comparative advantage of WHO in addressing the proposal.
- Factor B.3 The proposal introduces a subject which is deemed to be of interest to public health and which has never been discussed at WHO.
- Factor B.4 The proposal raises for re-discussion an issue which has not been discussed within WHO global fora for the past 4 (four) years.

**Criterion C The proposal brings up for discussion internationally agreed instruments which involve or impact health or declarations, agreements, resolutions or decisions adopted in other WHO international fora****Factors to consider under this criterion include:**

- Factor C.1 The added value reopening the discussion of the subject will bring to public health.
- Factor C.2 The need for collective action through WHO for the implementation of any commitments.
- Factor C.3 The need for Member States to seek country technical support from WHO for the implementation of any commitments.

Factor C.4            The existence of other resolutions, decisions taken by the governing bodies that could fulfil the perceived need in factors A.2 and A.3 above.

**Criterion D        The existence of evidence based, cost-effective interventions to address the subject being proposed**

**Factors to consider under this criterion include:**

Factor D.1            The solidity of the evidence submitted by proponent.

Factor D.2            The cost effectiveness of the proposal.

Factor D.3            The potential for using knowledge and innovative science and technology to address the subject.

Factor D.4            The potential resource impact for the Organization.

**Criterion E        The urgency of the proposal**

**Factors to consider under this criterion include:**

Factor E.1            The extent to which immediate action is required to address the public health issue with potential global impact being raised.

Factor E.2            The criticality of negative impact of a delay in addressing such public health issue.

Factor E.3            Keeping E.1 and E.2 in mind, the impact the introduction of the item will have on the workload, effective management and running of the meeting.

Factor E.4            The feasibility of postponing the proposal for inclusion in the agenda of future meetings.

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