Executive Board
Special session on WHO reform
Geneva, 1–3 November 2011

Provisional agenda (annotated)

1. Opening of the session

2. Adoption of the agenda and method of work

3. WHO reform

   3.1 Overview of WHO reform

   The Secretariat will present an overview of the three components of WHO reform: programmatic priorities, governance, and managerial reform. This will include feedback from the consultative process. Since the 129th session of the Executive Board, there has been extensive consultation with and among Member States,¹ in accordance with paragraph 5 of decision EB129(8), including the web-based consultations, and discussions at the Regional Committees.

   3.2 Programmatic priorities

   The Board is invited to consider the proposed direction for WHO work in the medium term, endorse it and provide further strategic guidance to the Secretariat on the proposed approaches to priority setting.

   3.3 Governance²

   The document will describe challenges and make proposals on both WHO’s internal governance, as well as on global health governance. The Board is requested to provide guidance and to initiate action on a range of proposals, including on strengthening the executive role of the Board, making the Health Assembly more effective, and establishing greater coherence between regional and global governance. Some of the proposals include measures by the Secretariat to improve the methods of work, and others may also involve revision by Member States of some rules of procedure. The section on global governance will provide options for increasing coherence and enhancing the engagement of other stakeholders, and the Board is invited to provide further guidance on this matter.

   3.4 Managerial reform³

   The document will outline the five main areas proposed for managerial reform: organizational effectiveness, alignment and efficiency; human resources policies and management; results-based planning, management and accountability; financing of the Organization, with a corporate approach to resource mobilization; and a strategic communications framework. There will be proposals for reform, on which the Board is invited to provide

¹ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.
² Includes the issue of the World Health Forum.
³ Includes the issue of independent evaluation of WHO.
guidance for further action by the Secretariat, and others on which the Board will make recommendations for the consideration of the Health Assembly.

4. Next steps

Under this agenda item, the Board may wish to consider next steps, including:

- a possible decision/resolution with recommendations for areas requiring further work by the Secretariat;
- a draft resolution with recommendations for action/endorsement by the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly;
- issues that may need further deliberation by the Board at its 130th session in January 2012.

5. Closure of the session

Note:

At their consultation with the Director-General on 29 September 2011, convened in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Officers of the Board expressed satisfaction with the draft provisional annotated agenda and draft programme of work that had been transmitted for comment to Officers of the Board on 27 September, and made no amendment.