SEVENTH PLENARY MEETING

Friday, 23 May 2008, at 09:15

President: Dr L. RAMSAMMY (Guyana)

1. EXAMINATION OF CREDENTIALS
   VERIFICATION DES POUVOIRS

The PRESIDENT:

   Excellencies, distinguished delegates, the seventh plenary meeting of the Sixty-first World Health Assembly is now called to order.

   Before starting our work this morning, I have to notify the Health Assembly that formal credentials have now been received from Grenada, a Member State that had not previously submitted credentials. It has not been feasible to convene the Committee on Credentials to examine the formal credentials of Grenada but, in accordance with previous practice, I have examined these credentials and have found them to be in keeping with the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly. I would therefore recommend to the Health Assembly that Grenada be accepted as having formal credentials.

   I therefore put this recommendation to the Health Assembly for its consideration. Is there any objection? I see no objection. So it is decided that the formal credentials of Grenada are accepted by the Health Assembly.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT
   COMMUNICATION

   When the General Committee met on Wednesday, 21 May, it drew up the list for the annual election of Members entitled to designate a person to serve on the Executive Board and it reviewed the programme of work of the Health Assembly. After consideration of the progress of work in the main committees, the General Committee recommended that this plenary should meet this morning at 09:00 to consider item 6, Executive Board: election and item 8, Reports of the main committees.
3. EXECUTIVE BOARD: ELECTION
CONSEIL EXECUTIF: ELECTION

The PRESIDENT:

We shall now consider item 6, Executive Board: election.
I draw your attention to the list of 10 Members, contained in document A61/40, drawn up by the General Committee in accordance with Rule 102 of the Rules of Procedure. In the General Committee’s opinion, these 10 Members would provide, if elected, a balanced distribution of the Board as a whole. These Members are, in English alphabetical order: Bangladesh, Brazil, Hungary, Mauritania, Mauritius, Niger, Oman, Russian Federation, Samoa and Uganda. Is the Health Assembly prepared, in accordance with Rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure, to elect these 10 Members as proposed by the General Committee? I see no objection. I therefore declare the 10 Members elected. This election will be duly recorded in the records of the Health Assembly. May I take this opportunity to invite Members to pay due regard to the provisions of Article 24 of the Constitution when appointing a person to serve on the Executive Board.

4. REPORTS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEES
RAPPORTS DES COMMISSIONS PRINCIPALES

The PRESIDENT:

We can now proceed to agenda item 8, “Reports of the main committees”.

First report of Committee A
Premier rapport de la Commission A

Let us now consider the first report of Committee A. This is contained in document A61/42. Please disregard the word “Draft” as the Committee approved the report without amendments. The report contains two resolutions. First there is the resolution entitled “Poliomyelitis: mechanism for management of potential risks to eradication”. Is the Health Assembly ready to adopt this resolution? I see no objection. The resolution is therefore adopted.

The second resolution for your consideration is entitled “Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)”. Is the Health Assembly willing to adopt this resolution? Since there is no objection, the resolution is adopted and the first report of Committee A is therefore approved.

First report of Committee B
Premier rapport de la Commission B

Let us now consider the first report of Committee B. This is contained in document A61/43. Again, please disregard the word “Draft” as the Committee approved the report without amendments. The report includes one resolution, entitled “Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan”.

Is the Health Assembly ready to adopt the resolution? I recognize the United States.

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1 See reports of committees in document WHA61/2008/REC/3.

2 Voir les rapports des commissions dans le document WHA61/2008/REC/3.
Mr ANDERSON (United States of America):

Thank you, Mr Chairman. The United States would like to request that the records of this meeting reflect that this resolution was adopted in Committee B by a recorded vote and is not a consensus text.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, United States of America. We will note that statement.
I see no objection. The resolution is adopted and the first report of Committee B is therefore approved.
The next plenary will be held on Saturday, 24 May, following the conclusion of the work of the two Committees.

The meeting rose at 09:25.
La séance est levée à 9h25.