Status of collection of assessed contributions, including Member States in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution

Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly

1. The twentieth meeting of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee was held in Geneva from 14 to 16 May 2014, under the chairmanship of Dr Dirk Cuypers (Belgium). The Committee adopted its agenda, with the deletion of items 2.9 and 2.10.

2. The Committee considered the report on the status of collection of assessed contributions, including Member States in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution. It was noted that the rate of collection of assessed contributions for 2013 was 85%, with the total unpaid contributions as at 31 December 2013 of US$ 114.4 million.

3. The Committee noted that subsequent payments had been received from 16 Member States, namely, Afghanistan, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Jordan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Montenegro, Palau, Rwanda, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan and Togo, which meant that Article 7 of the Constitution need no longer be invoked with regard to those Member States. Accordingly, the relevant paragraphs of the draft resolution proposed in document A67/44 in respect of Article 7 of the Constitution should be duly amended. A further update taking into account any further payments received will be provided before discussion of the agenda item by Committee B of the World Health Assembly.

4. The Committee was informed that the status of collection of assessed contributions detailed in the report reflected the position as at 31 December 2013.

---

1 The list of participants is available in document EBPBAC20/DIV./1.
2 Document EBPBAC20/1.
3 Document A67/44.
RECOMMENDATION TO THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

5. The Committee, on behalf of the Executive Board, recommended that the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly adopt the following amended draft resolution:1

The Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on status of collection of assessed contributions, including Members in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution;2

Having noted the report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly,3

Noting that, at the time of opening of the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly, the voting rights of Central African Republic, Comoros, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau and Somalia were suspended, such suspension to continue until the arrears of the Members concerned have been reduced, at the present or future Health Assemblies, to a level below the amount that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution;

Noting that at the time of opening of the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly, the voting rights of Afghanistan, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Mauritania, Montenegro, Palau, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, South Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo and Ukraine were in arrears at the time of the opening of the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly to such an extent that it was necessary for the Health Assembly to consider, in accordance with Article 7 of the Constitution, whether the voting privileges of those countries should be suspended for Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine at the opening of the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly, and for the remaining eighteen Member States at the opening of the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly,

DECIDES:

(1) that in accordance with the statement of principles set out in resolution WHA41.7 if, by the time of the opening of the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Mauritania, Montenegro, Palau, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, South Sudan and Suriname Syrian Arab Republic and Togo are still in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution, their voting privileges shall be suspended as from the said opening; and in accordance with

1 Amendments are indicated in strikethrough.
2 Document A67/44.
3 Document A67/57.
resolutions WHA59.6, WHA61.8, WHA66.14 and WHA64.20 if, by the time of the opening of the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine, respectively, are still in arrears in the payment of their rescheduled assessments, their voting privileges shall be suspended automatically;

(2) that any suspension that takes effect as set out in paragraph (1) above shall continue at the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly and subsequent Health Assemblies, until the arrears of Afghanistan, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Mauritania, Montenegro, Palau, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, South Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo and Ukraine have been reduced to a level below the amount that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution;

(3) that this decision shall be without prejudice to the right of any Member to request restoration of its voting privileges in accordance with Article 7 of the Constitution.