Proposal for supplementary agenda item

The Director-General has the honour to refer to a proposal received from the Republic of Sudan on 23 March 2015 for a supplementary agenda item, “Mycetoma” (see Annex).

In accordance with Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, this proposal for a supplementary agenda item is submitted to the General Committee for its consideration.

Supplementary documentation accompanying this proposal will be distributed if a corresponding agenda item is added by the Health Assembly.
ANNEX

Date: 23-March-2015

To: Dr. Mohamed Hussain Shareef
   H. E. Chairperson of Executive Board

Subject: Letter from ministry of health in Sudan

I am seeking your support and endorsement to add an Agenda item on Mycetoma at the forthcoming WHA68" to be held in Geneva 2015.

Attached is a brief concept note for Neglected Tropical Diseases that are categorized under “others”

The draft resolution attached has been submitted by Sudan and supported by Tanzania, Nigeria, Yemen and South Sudan.

Kindly let me know if any clarifications are needed since Sudan has been actively working on this disabling disease to be as a priority on Neglected Tropical Diseases List.

Looking forward to your kind active support.

Thanks & best regards.

Sincerely ...

Dr. Abdelmunem Abdalla Hamadto
Executive Director
Federal Ministry of Health – Sudan
DRAFT RESOLUTION WHA68 (2015)

Initiated by Sudan and sponsored by India, Nigeria, Somalia & Mexico,

Strengthening Control of Mycetoma Disease

The Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly,

Mycetoma Belt countries,

Deeply concerned about the burden of Mycetoma, especially among children and young adults in the productive age, and its health and socioeconomic impacts on poor rural communities;

Aware that early detection and treatment minimize the adverse consequences of the disease;

Noting with satisfaction the progress made by the Mycetoma Collaborating Centre, in coordinating control and research activities among partners;

Concerned that several factors, including late detection of cases and lack of effective tools for diagnosis, treatment and prevention, impede further progress;

Mindful that achievement of two of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, namely, to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger and to achieve universal primary education, may be hampered by the negative impact of neglected diseases of the poor, including Mycetoma,

1. URGES Member States in which Mycetoma is or threatens to become endemic:

   a) to assess the burden of Mycetoma and, where necessary, establish a control programme.

   b) to accelerate efforts for early detection and treatment of mycetoma cases.

   c) where feasible, to build up effective collaboration with other relevant disease-control activities.

   d) within the context of health-system development, to establish and sustain partnerships at country and regional level for control of Mycetoma.

   e) to ensure that sufficient national resources are available to meet surveillance and control needs, including access to treatment and rehabilitation services.

   f) to promote community awareness on the disease.

   g) to provide training to all health workers in the diagnosis and management of Mycetoma.

   h) to add Mycetoma as one of the priority of neglected tropical diseases.

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2. ENCOURAGES all Member States:

a) to intensify research to develop tools to diagnose, treat and prevent the disease, and to integrate Mycetoma into the national disease-surveillance system.

b) to intensify community participation in the recognition of disease symptoms and prevention.

3. CALLS UPON the international community, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, donors, non-governmental organizations, foundations and research institutions:

a) to cooperate directly with countries in which the disease is endemic in order to strengthen control and research activities.

b) to develop partnerships and to foster collaboration with organizations and programmes involved in health-system development in order to ensure that effective interventions can reach all those in need.

d) to provide support to the Mycetoma Collaborating Centres.

4. REQUESTS the Director-General:

a) to continue to provide technical support to the Mycetoma Collaborating Centers, in order particularly to advance understanding of the disease burden and to improve early access to diagnosis and treatment by general strengthening of health infrastructure.

b) to foster technical cooperation among countries as a means of strengthening surveillance, control and rehabilitation services.

c) to promote research on better diagnostic, treatment and preventive tools through coordination by, and support from, the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases.