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## **Framework of engagement with non-State actors**

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

1. Introducing the item, the Chair of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting on the draft framework of engagement with non-State actors recalled that the mandate of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting had been extended by the Executive Board at its 138th session in January 2016.<sup>1</sup> Discussion of the draft framework had thus continued at a resumed meeting (Geneva, 25–27 April 2016).
2. Referring to the report by the Director-General,<sup>2</sup> the Chair of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting noted that for four paragraphs on draft WHO policy and operational procedures on engagement with private sector entities consensus had not yet been reached. Within the draft overarching framework, seven paragraphs that had been agreed ad referendum (17, 27, 32, 34, 35, 38 and 38bis) needed further discussion in terms of implementation. The draft resolution also needed finalizing. In addition, he noted that the document with the financial and administrative implications of the draft resolution for the Secretariat had not yet been issued.
3. Consequently, the Chair of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting informed the Committee that he will recommend that Committee A of the Health Assembly opens the agenda item on the subject early in its deliberations in order to establish a drafting group to finalize the outstanding issues in the draft framework and draft resolution.
4. The Committee welcomed the progress made, noting that the text was mostly complete, and applauded Argentina's chairmanship of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting. The Committee supported the proposal of creating a drafting group at the Health Assembly.
5. Some Member States expressed concern that information on the financial and administrative implications of the draft resolution for the Secretariat, which were vital for the consideration of the Health Assembly, had not been presented to the Committee. However, the Chair of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting reported that the financial implications had been considered during the process and that the document containing that information could only be confirmed and issued after agreement of the final text. The Secretariat concurred, adding that some further information, including the report of the External Auditor on the implications for WHO of the implementation of the framework of engagement, had been presented to the Intergovernmental Meeting and recently posted on the WHO website.

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<sup>1</sup> See decision EB138(3).

<sup>2</sup> Document A69/6.

6. At the request of the Committee, the Chair of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting set out a proposed order of work for the drafting group.

**RECOMMENDATION TO THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

7. The Committee, on behalf of the Executive Board, recommended that the Health Assembly consider that item 11.3 of its provisional agenda be opened early in Committee A in order to establish a drafting group to finalize the draft framework of engagement with non-State actors and the related draft resolution, and expressed the expectation that this work could be concluded in, and the framework adopted by, the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly.

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