Second report of Committee A

(Draft)

Committee A held its fourth meeting on 25 May 2016 under the chairmanship of Mr Martin Bowles (Australia).

It was decided to recommend to the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly the adoption of the attached decision relating to the following agenda item:

14. Preparedness, surveillance and response

14.9 Reform of WHO’s work in health emergency management: WHO Health Emergencies Programme

One decision
Agenda item 14.9

Reform of WHO’s work in health emergency management: WHO Health Emergencies Programme

The Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly, having considered the report on the reform of WHO’s work in health emergency management,¹ decided:

(1) to welcome the progress made in the development of the new Health Emergencies Programme, the elaboration of an implementation plan and timeline for the new Programme, and the establishment of the Emergencies Oversight and Advisory Committee;

(2) to encourage ongoing collaboration with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to enhance humanitarian system-wide coordination of the response to large-scale infectious hazards in the future;

(3) to note that the overall budget for the Health Emergencies Programme and its new operational capacities will be US$ 494 million for the biennium 2016–2017, representing a US$ 160 million increase over the current budget for WHO’s primarily normative and technical work in health emergency management;

(4) to approve an increase of US$ 160 million for the Programme budget 2016–2017 to initiate the implementation plan for the new Health Emergencies Programme, and to authorize the Director-General to mobilize additional voluntary contributions to meet this financial need for the biennium 2016–2017;

(5) to request the Director-General to report to the Seventieth World Health Assembly, through the Executive Board, on progress made and experience gained in establishing and operationalizing the Health Emergencies Programme.

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¹ Document A69/30.