

Overview of financial situation: Programme budget 2016–2017

WHO mid-term programmatic and financial report for 2016–2017, including audited financial statements for 2016

Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Seventieth World Health Assembly

1. The Secretariat introduced a report on the overview of financial situation: Programme budget 2016–2017,¹ together with the WHO mid-term programmatic and financial report for 2016–2017, including audited financial statements for 2016.²
2. It was noted that, at the end of March 2017, the budget segment for base programmes was financed at 86% (or at 93% if projections are included), with a financing gap of US\$ 456 million (US\$ 225 million including projections). This gap was attributable to an overall increase of US\$ 396.6 million in the base programme segment, due partly to the new WHO Health Emergencies Programme, a decrease in the overall level of flexible funding, and a lower level of specified voluntary contributions.
3. The Committee noted improvements in financial reporting thanks to the programme budget web portal and the alignment with International Aid Transparency Initiative standards.
4. At the same time, the Committee expressed concerns about the overall funding shortfall and asked the Organization to address the issue by additional resource mobilization efforts, cost savings and prioritization in consultation with Member States. The six Regional Directors were invited to consider the fiscal constraints and to provide their responses. Common aspects referred to included decentralization and efficiency gains, reprioritization, cost savings and mobilizing more resources. There were heterogeneous fiscal constraints across and within regions.

¹ Document A70/6.

² Document A70/40; see also document A70/INF./4.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

5. The Committee, on behalf of the Executive Board, recommended that the Health Assembly note the reports contained in documents A70/6 and A70/40, and adopt the following draft decision:

The Seventieth World Health Assembly, having considered the WHO mid-term programmatic and financial report for 2016–2017, including audited financial statements for 2016;¹ and having noted the report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Seventieth World Health Assembly,² decided to accept the WHO mid-term programmatic and financial report for 2016–2017, including audited financial statements for 2016.

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¹ Document A70/40.

² Document A70/58.