

Human resources: annual report

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

1. The Secretariat presented an overview of the trends in the WHO workforce for the period 2014-2016 and status of the implementation of the human resources strategy.¹
2. The Committee expressed its appreciation for the report, and for the progress made in attracting and retaining talent and creating an enabling work environment, as well as in managing performance. It encouraged the Secretariat to carry out the work that remains to be done.
3. In addition, the Committee welcomed the increase in the percentage of women holding long-term appointments in the professional and higher categories, which had risen from 42.8% at the end of 2016 to stand at 43.7% as at 15 May 2017. At the same time, it urged continued work to improve gender balance and geographical distribution at the three levels of the Organization and in all grades.
4. The Committee noted the slow progress made in implementing the voluntary geographical mobility policy and urged the Secretariat to accelerate implementation.
5. The Committee noted with appreciation that temporary appointments carry similar entitlements and benefits to those of fixed-term appointments and that these elements therefore do not have an impact on the commitment of staff to the work of the Organization.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

6. The Committee, on behalf of the Executive Board, recommended that the Health Assembly note the annual report on human resources.

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¹ See document A70/45.