

Proposed Infrastructure Fund (consolidating the Real Estate Fund and IT Fund)

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

1. Presenting its report,¹ the Secretariat outlined the rationale for proposing the creation of an infrastructure fund that would consolidate the existing Real Estate and IT funds.
2. The Committee welcomed the proposal, which would rationalize day-to-day management of the two existing funds while maintaining them as separate sub-accounts within the Infrastructure Fund.
3. The Committee stressed the importance of protecting the long-term assets of the Organization and emphasized the essential nature of investment in information technology.
4. The Committee noted the establishment of the Global IT Board as a governance mechanism for the global IT Fund.
5. In the context of the approved renovation strategy, Member States were reminded of the importance of their participation in the Renovation Strategy Member States Advisory Committee to ensure this is fully operational. In this regard, not all regions have submitted their nominations for members and alternates to date. The Secretariat was urged to accelerate the process.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

6. The Committee noted the report and, on behalf of the Executive Board, recommended that the Health Assembly consider the following draft decision:

The Seventieth World Health Assembly, having considered the report on Proposed Infrastructure Fund (consolidating the Real Estate Fund and IT Fund);¹ having noted the report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Seventieth World Health Assembly;² noting the financing requirements for infrastructure needs, comprising investments in both real estate and information technology, as described in document A70/54; and noting the existing financing arrangements for the Real Estate Fund, in accordance with resolution WHA63.7 (2010) on the Capital Master Plan and decision

¹ Document A70/54.

² Document A70/65.

WHA69(18) (2016) on Real Estate: update on the Geneva buildings renovation strategy, which provide for US\$ 25 million per biennium for real estate needs, decided:

- (1) to approve the renaming of the Real Estate Fund as the Infrastructure Fund;
- (2) to approve the extension of the purposes of the Infrastructure Fund (formerly Real Estate Fund) to include information technology investments, as approved by the IT Board, in addition to the approved purposes defined under resolution WHA23.14 (1970) on Real Estate Fund. Separate sub-accounts will be maintained and reported;
- (3) to authorize the Director-General to allocate, by the end of each biennium, at least US\$ 15 million, as available, for information technology investment needs within the Infrastructure Fund;
- (4) to request the Director-General to establish separate sub-accounts to maintain the segregation between the Real Estate and IT investment funds within the Infrastructure Fund;
- (5) to request the Director-General to report to the Executive Board at its future sessions on the implementation of information technology and real estate projects covered by the Infrastructure Fund, and its financing.

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