
Programme budget 2008–2009: update

Report by the Secretariat

1. During the first 10 months of 2008, two principal revisions were made to the total effective budget under all sources of funds, which had been noted by the Sixtieth World Health Assembly at the level of US\$ 4228 million.¹ First, the Director-General authorized an increase in the overall level to US\$ 4952 million, following an increase in estimated income and expenditure in respect of voluntary funds. Secondly, in recognition of the increasingly important role of partnerships and the effect of changes in the budgets of partnerships on the overall budget, a segmentation of WHO's overall budget was introduced. In order to improve transparency, the Programme budget 2008–2009 was divided into three principal segments: WHO programmes, partnerships and collaborative arrangements, and outbreak and crisis response.
2. The increase in the Programme budget 2008–2009 was applied predominantly to the segment for partnerships and collaborative arrangements. This reflects the much larger than anticipated expenditures by several partnerships, most notably the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. The increase in the WHO programme segment was limited to US\$ 147 million.²
3. The overall revised effective budget for the biennium 2008–2009 stands at US\$ 4952 million; it is composed as follows: US\$ 3888 million for WHO programmes, US\$ 747 million for partnerships and collaborative arrangements, and US\$ 316 million for outbreak and crisis response.
4. At the time this report was being prepared, it was not possible to provide a detailed analysis of income and expenditure owing to delays in the accounting process. These were primarily associated with the consolidation of regional office expenditures into the new global management system.
5. The Table indicates the global situation as at the end of October 2008.

¹ Resolution WHA60.12.

² The increases in WHO programmes by individual Strategic Objective are indicated in tabular form in the draft Proposed programme budget 2010–2011.

Table. Income and expenditure: global situation at 31 October 2008

	(US\$ million)
Effective budget	4952
Resources	
<i>Carried forward</i>	1600
<i>Income recorded</i>	2450
TOTAL	4050
Expenditure	1520

6. The figure for income recorded includes US\$ 960 million in assessed contributions for the full biennium; it also includes about US\$ 450 million in voluntary contributions, an amount that is designated for implementation in future bienniums. It is important to emphasize that within the resources available, imbalances remain between over- and under-funded areas as a result of heavy earmarking.

7. Total income from voluntary contributions in the biennium 2006–2007 was reported as US\$ 3400 million, with a monthly average income of US\$ 140 million. During the first 10 months of 2008, income from voluntary contributions has been received at a similar rate (US\$ 150 million per month); it is therefore expected that the overall resource requirements of the Organization will be met for this biennium.

8. A more detailed analysis will be submitted to the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee at its tenth meeting in May 2009, at which time the review is scheduled of the unaudited interim financial report on the accounts of WHO for the year 2008: financial period 2008–2009.

ACTION BY THE PROGRAMME, BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

9. The Programme, Budget and Administration Committee is invited to note this report.

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