



REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Provisional Agenda item 19.2

*Sixty-first Session  
SEARO, New Delhi  
8–11 September 2008*

SEA/RC61/24

18 July 2008

**SPECIAL PROGRAMMES:  
NOMINATION OF A MEMBER STATE TO THE POLICY AND  
COORDINATION COMMITTEE (PCC) OF THE UNDP/UNFPA/  
WORLD BANK/WHO SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH,  
DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH TRAINING IN HUMAN  
REPRODUCTION**

The Policy and Coordination Committee (PCC) of the Special Programme acts as its governing body and is responsible for its overall policy and strategy. Three countries from the South-East Asia Region – Bangladesh, Indonesia and Myanmar – are currently members of Category 2 of the PCC.

The Regional Committee, at its earlier session, recommended that the PCC members elected by it should report to the Regional Committee giving a summary of the deliberations of the last PCC session attended by them. Representatives from Bangladesh and Indonesia attended the meeting of the PCC held from 23-25 June 2008 in Argentina. The report of this meeting was duly presented to and noted by the Meeting of the Advisory Committee (ACM) held at WHO/SEARO, New Delhi from 30 June to 3 July 2008.

The term of office of Bangladesh as PCC member ends on 31 December 2008. A vacancy will thus occur in the South East Asia Region. As such, this session of the Regional Committee will need to select one country for membership to the PCC for a three-year term commencing 1 January 2009.

While selecting a country, the Regional Committee may wish to consider its financial and/or technical capacity and interest to support the Special Programme in the field of family planning, research and development in human reproduction and fertility regulation as demonstrated through its national policies and programmes.



## Background

1. The Policy and Coordination Committee (PCC) of the Special Programme for Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction acts as a governing body of the Special Programme and is responsible for its overall policy and strategy. For the purpose of coordinating the interests and responsibilities of the parties cooperating in the Special Programme, it:

- Reviews and decides upon the planning and execution of the Special Programme;
- Reviews and approves the plan of action and budget for the coming financial period prepared by the Executing Agency and reviewed by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG) and the Standing Committee;
- Reviews the proposals of the Standing Committee and approves arrangements for the financing of the Special Programme;
- Reviews the proposed longer-term plans of action and their financial implications;
- Reviews the annual financial statements submitted by the Executing Agency, and the audit report thereon, submitted by the External Auditor of the Executing Agency;
- Reviews periodic reports that will evaluate the progress of the Special Programme towards the achievement of its objectives;
- Reviews and endorses the selection of members of STAG by the Executing Agency in consultation with the Standing Committee; and
- Considers such other matters relating to the Special Programme as may be referred to it by any Cooperating Party.

## Composition

2. The PCC consists of members from among the Cooperating Parties as follows (Annex 1):
- (1) Largest financial contributors: 11 government representatives from the countries which are the largest financial contributors to the Special Programme, including India and Thailand.
  - (2) Countries elected by WHO Regional Committees: 14 Member countries elected by the WHO Regional Committees for three-year terms according to population distribution and regional needs. Three countries represent the South-East Asia Region under this category are **Bangladesh, Indonesia and Myanmar**. In their election, due account is taken of a country's financial and/or technical support to the Special Programme, as well as its interest in the fields of family planning, research and development in human reproduction and fertility regulation as demonstrated by national policies and programmes.
  - (3) Other interested Cooperating Parties: two members elected by PCC for three-year terms from the remaining Cooperating Parties.

- (4) Permanent members: the co-sponsors of the Special Programme viz., UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, The World Bank and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). Members of PCC in Categories (2) and (3) may be re-elected.
- (5) Observers: other Cooperating Parties may be represented as observers upon approval of the Executing Agency, which is the World Health Organization, after consultation with the Standing Committee. Observers may attend sessions of PCC at their own expense.

## Action to be taken by the Regional Committee

### Report on PCC Session

3. The Regional Committee, at its earlier session, recommended that the PCC members elected by it should report to the Regional Committee giving a summary of the deliberation of the last PCC session attended by them. The proceedings of the PCC meeting held on 23-25 June, 2008, in Buenos Aires, Argentina were presented to the Advisory Committee Meeting held from 30 June to 3 July, 2008 in New Delhi, India. The meeting has noted the report.

### Membership from the South-East Asia Region under Category 2

4. The following table depicts the membership of PCC from the South-East Asia Region over the past few years.

| Country           | Period           | Elected by                | Paragraph of the Memorandum on the administrative structure under which elected |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Bangladesh</b> | 1987-1989        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | 1990-1992        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | 2000-2002        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | <b>2006-2008</b> | <b>Regional Committee</b> | <b>2.2.2</b>  |
| India             | 1988-1989        | PCC                       | 2.2.1   |
|                   | 1990-1991        | PCC                       | 2.2.1   |
|                   | 1993-1995        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | 1996-1998        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | 1999-2001        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | 2002-2004        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
| <b>Indonesia</b>  | 1992-1994        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | 1995-1997        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | 1998-2000        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | 2001-2003        | Regional Committee        | 2.2.2   |
|                   | <b>2008-2010</b> | <b>Regional Committee</b> | <b>2.2.2</b>  |
| <b>Myanmar</b>    | <b>2007-2009</b> | <b>Regional Committee</b> | <b>2.2.2</b>  |

| Country   | Period    | Elected by         | Paragraph of the Memorandum on the administrative structure under which elected |
|-----------|-----------|--------------------|---|
| Nepal     | 1989-1991 | Regional Committee | 2.2.2   |
|           | 2000-2002 | PCC                | 2.2.3   |
|           | 2005-2007 | Regional Committee | 2.2.2   |
| Sri Lanka | 1988-1990 | Regional Committee | 2.2.2   |
|           | 1994-1996 | Regional Committee | 2.2.2   |
|           | 2004-2006 | Regional Committee | 2.2.2   |
| Thailand  | 1988-1990 | PCC                | 2.2.3   |
|           | 1991-1993 | Regional Committee | 2.2.2   |
|           | 1997-1999 | Regional Committee | 2.2.2   |
|           | 2003-2005 | Regional Committee | 2.2.2   |

5. At present, the three Member countries from the South-East Asia Region that are members of PCC are Bangladesh, Indonesia and Myanmar. **Since the term of office of Bangladesh ends on 31 December 2008, the Regional Committee may consider electing, in this session, one of the Member States of the Region to serve on the PCC for a three-year term of office from 1 January 2009.**

6. In selecting a Member country, the Regional Committee may keep in view that due account should be taken of a country's financial and/or technical support to the Special Programme, as well as its interest in the field of family planning, research and development in human reproduction and fertility regulation as demonstrated by the national policies and programmes.

## **Annex 1**

### **Cooperating Parties of the Policy and Coordination Committee**

#### **Category (1) – Largest financial contributors in the previous biennium**

Canada

China

Flemish government, Belgium

#### **India**

Netherlands

Norway

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

#### **Thailand**

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### **Category (2) – Countries elected by the WHO Regional Committees**

Armenia

#### **Bangladesh**

Colombia

Congo

Côte d'Ivoire

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Ecuador

Equatorial Guinea

#### **Indonesia**

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Malaysia

#### **Myanmar**

Singapore

Syrian Arab Republic

**Category (3) – Other interested cooperating parties**

United Arab Emirates

Zambia

**Category (4) – Permanent members**

UNDP

UNFPA

WHO

The World Bank

IPPF