

Provisional agenda (annotated)

- 1. Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda**
- 2. Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur**
- 3. Outcome of the Sixty-second World Health Assembly**

The Board will receive at the opening of its session a report on the outcome of the Sixty-second World Health Assembly which is scheduled to be held from 18 to 27 May 2009.

- 4. Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board**

The Board will receive at the opening of its session the report of the tenth meeting of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee which is scheduled to be held on 14 and 15 May 2009.

- 5. Technical and health matters**

5.1 Global elimination of measles

The Executive Board at its 123rd session requested the Director-General to report on the feasibility of global measles elimination, for which currently there is no global goal. This report discusses the prospects for elimination, the progress towards regional goals, and the challenges remaining.

5.2 Availability, safety and quality of blood products

Item proposed by a Member State. The report describes the role of blood products in health care. Most developing countries have not yet implemented adequate procedures to ensure the safety, quality and availability of blood and blood products, and still face serious blood shortages and risks of infection transmitted through transfusion. WHO's actions to date are presented together with proposed activities in this regard, focusing on promoting a reliable blood supply, national legislative and regulatory frameworks, and international collaboration.

5.3 Guidance on the WHO review of psychoactive substances for international control: proposed revision

WHO assesses psychoactive substances for their liability to be abused in order to make recommendations to the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs, based on scientific and public-health-related principles. The current revision of the guidelines aims to provide additional clarity to the process. The revised guidelines are submitted to the Board for its consideration.

5.4 Birth defects

Request by a Member State. This report outlines the disease burden and public health importance of perinatal and infant mortality caused by birth defects or genetic conditions. It sets out current knowledge of effective

measures with a view to their contribution to achievement of the targets of Millennium Development Goal 4. The Secretariat seeks the Board's further guidance.

6. Management and financial matters

6.1 Independent expert oversight advisory committee

Request by a Member State. The proposal for a new committee was first discussed by the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee at its ninth meeting and will be further considered at that Committee's tenth meeting. This report provides further information, including proposed terms of reference for the new committee, as a basis for the Board's broader consultation on the establishment of the proposed committee.

6.2 Committees of the Executive Board: filling of vacancies

6.3 Future sessions of the Executive Board and the Health Assembly

6.4 Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules [if any]

7. Staffing matters

7.1 Statement by the representative of the WHO staff associations

7.2 Confirmation of amendments to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules [if any]

8. Matters for information

Report on meetings of expert committees and study groups

In compliance with the Regulations for Expert Advisory Panels and Committees, a report is submitted on meetings of expert committees and study groups, including a summary of the recommendations contained within the reports of expert committees, and comments on their significance for public health policies and implications for the Organization's programmes.

9. Closure of the session

Note: At their teleconference with the Director-General on 27 March 2009, convened in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Officers of the Board reviewed proposals received from two Member States to include additional agenda items on the draft provisional agenda for the 125th session of the Executive Board in May 2009.

Based on the criteria established by the Board (resolution EB121.R1) for inclusion of proposed additional items, the Officers of the Board agreed that, given the proposed review by the Programme Budget and Administration Committee at its tenth meeting in May 2009 and by the Sixty-second World Health Assembly of "Implementation of Programme budget 2008-2009: interim report", no further discussion would be required by the Board.

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