Governing Body matters:
Review of the Draft Provisional Agenda of the
150th Session of the WHO Executive Board

The 150th Session of the WHO Executive Board will be held at WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, on 24–29 January 2022.

In accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, any proposal from a Member State or Associate Member of WHO to include an item on the Agenda should reach the Director-General of the World Health Organization not later than 12 weeks after circulation of the Draft Provisional Agenda or 10 weeks before the commencement of the Session of the Executive Board, whichever is earlier. Proposals should, therefore, reach the Director-General by 22 September 2021. Also, in accordance with Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, any proposal for inclusion in the Agenda of any item shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum.

The High-Level Preparatory Meeting noted the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 150th Session of the WHO Executive Board and the modalities for proposing any additional Agenda item to the Executive Board Bureau within the given timeline of 22 September 2021.

Delegates from the SEA Region, in a display of regional solidarity, supported the following proposal submitted by the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, and the HLP Meeting made the following recommendations related to the proposal for the consideration of the Seventy-fourth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia:

**Preventing deaths and injuries from highly hazardous pesticides:** Highly hazardous pesticides, though only a subset of pesticides, cause a disproportionate amount of harm by intentional ingestion, by poisoning farmers and their families, by contaminating food, soil and water supplies used by local communities. WHO recognizes the harmful effects caused by agricultural pesticides since 1990.
Pesticides self-poisoning is one of the three most important global means of suicide, which WHO recognizes as being eminently preventable. The long-term effects of the chronic low-level exposure in food and water to these chemicals, in terms of their role in causing cancer and neurological disorders, is still under study. The Executive Board is requested to consider inclusion of this subject in the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 150th Session of the WHO Executive Board and also consider endorsing a resolution on the same that proposes a rapid phase-out of all highly hazardous pesticides from agricultural use by 2030, in line with the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

**Action by Member States**

(1) Take note of the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 150th Session of the Executive Board, and the timelines indicated by the Chair, for sending any proposed additional Agenda item(s), to the Officers of the Executive Board by 22 September 2021, accompanied with an explanatory memorandum.

**Actions by WHO**

(1) To provide the necessary statutory support to Member States in their submission of proposals for inclusion in the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 150th Session of the Executive Board.

The Draft Provisional Agenda for the 150th Session of the WHO Executive Board along with the HLP Meeting recommendations are placed before the Seventy-fourth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia for its review, comment and noting, as appropriate.
Draft provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda

2. Report by the Director-General

3. Outcome of the special session of the World Health Assembly to consider developing a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response

4. Report of the regional committees to the Executive Board

5. Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board

6. Post of Director-General
   6.1 Nomination of candidates
   6.2 Draft contract
   6.3 Modalities of the second candidates’ forum

Pillar 1: One billion more people benefitting from universal health coverage

7. Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases
   (a) Draft implementation road map 2023–2030 for the global action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases 2013–2030
   (b) Draft recommendations to strengthen and monitor diabetes responses within national noncommunicable disease programmes, including potential targets
   (c) Draft global strategy on oral health
   (d) Draft recommendations on how to strengthen the design and implementation of policies, including those for resilient health systems and health services and infrastructure, to treat people living with noncommunicable diseases and to prevent and control their risk factors in humanitarian emergencies
   (e) Progress in the implementation of the global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem and its associated goals and targets for the period 2020–2030
(f) Progress achieved in the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases and the promotion of mental health

(g) Draft intersectoral global action plan on epilepsy and other neurological disorders in support of universal health coverage

(h) Draft action plan (2022–2030) to effectively implement the global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol as a public health priority

(i) Draft recommendations for the prevention and management of obesity over the life course, including potential targets

(j) Draft workplan for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases

8. The global health sector strategies on, respectively, HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections

9. Global strategy for tuberculosis research and innovation

10. Road map for neglected tropical diseases 2021–2030

11. Immunization Agenda 2030

12. Infection prevention and control

13. Global road map on defeating meningitis by 2030

14. Standardization of medical devices nomenclature

Pillar 2: One billion more people better protected from health emergencies

15. Public health emergencies: preparedness and response
   15.1 Strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies
   15.2 WHO’s work in health emergencies
      • The Coalition for Universal Health Protection Architecture Initiative
   15.3 Influenza preparedness
   15.4 Global Health for Peace Initiative

16. Poliomyelitis
   16.1 Poliomyelitis eradication
   16.2 Polio transition planning and polio post-certification
Pillar 3: One billion more people enjoying better health and well-being

17. Maternal, infant and young child nutrition

18. WHO Implementation Framework for Billion 3
   • WHO global strategy for food safety

Pillar 4: More effective and efficient WHO providing better support to countries

19. Budget and finance matters
   19.1 Financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2020–2021 and outlook on financing of the Programme budget 2022–2023
   19.2 Programme budget 2022–2023
   19.3 Sustainable financing: report of the Working Group
   19.4 Scale of assessments 2022-2023
   19.5 Status of collection of assessed contributions, including Member States in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution Situation in respect of 2020
   19.6 Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules [if any]

20. Management matters
   20.1 Prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment
   20.2 Evaluation: update and proposed workplan for 2022–2023

21. Governance matters
   21.1 Global strategies and plans of action that are scheduled to expire within one year
      • Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property
   21.2 WHO reform: involvement of non-State actors in WHO’s governing bodies
   21.3 Engagement with non-State actors
      • Report on the implementation of the Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors
      • Non-State actors in official relations with WHO
   21.4 Provisional agenda of the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly and date and place of the 151st session of the Executive Board
22. **Committees of the Executive Board**

22.1 Participation in the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board

22.2 Independent Expert Oversight Advisory Committee

  • Terms of reference
  
  • Membership [if any]

22.3 Foundation committees and selection panels

23. **Staffing matters**

23.1 Statement by the representative of the WHO staff associations

23.2 Report of the Ombudsman

23.3 Human resources: update

23.4 Amendments to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules [if any]

23.5 Report of the International Civil Service Commission

24. **Report on meetings of expert committees and study groups**

  • Expert advisory panels and committees and their membership

25. **Closure of the session**