FIFTY-FOURTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY Provisional agenda item 12.2

A54/37 11 May 2001

Proposed programme budget for 2002-2003

Fourth report of the Administration, Budget and Finance Committee of the Executive Board to the Fifty-fourth World Health Assembly

- 1. The Administration, Budget and Finance Committee met on 11 May 2001 under the chairmanship of Professor T. Zeltner (Switzerland) to consider, *inter alia*, the proposed cost increases and exchange rates to be applied to the Proposed programme budget for 2002-2003.¹
- 2. The Chairman noted that the matter under consideration was complex and would be further discussed in Committee A of the Health Assembly.
- 3. The Committee noted that the proposed net cost increase amounted to US\$ 16.1 million. This sum was made up of two elements: an increase of US\$ 25.8 million, representing inflation, and a reduction of US\$ 9.7 million for negative currency adjustments. The Committee noted that the inflation forecasts used had been independently published and that, owing to differences in spending patterns and cost structures, the overall effect of inflation was different for WHO than for other organizations of the United Nations system.
- 4. In particular the Committee noted that the cost increases for the African, South-East Asia, Eastern Mediterranean and Western Pacific Regions and the Region of the Americas were based on US dollar inflation forecasts for that component of the budgeted expenditure for these offices which was either expressed in, or linked to, the United States dollar.

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¹ See documents A54/5 and A54/5 Corr.1.