

Financial period 2006–2007: implementation of resolution WHA58.4

Report by the Secretariat

1. Document A60/43 reports progress made in implementing those parts of resolution WHA58.4, appropriation resolution for the financial period 2006–2007, that deal with audit tracking. This present report draws attention to some other aspects of the follow-up to that resolution, including progress made on guidance provided on WHO's relative priorities when requesting voluntary contributions, and on the implementation of planned efficiency projects described in the Programme budget 2006–2007.
2. With respect to guidance, the Secretariat is working with key partners and donors in order to better align resources to WHO's priorities as determined by its governing bodies through the programme budget, to fill major funding gaps, and to improve programme implementation. In this context, the aim is to secure a larger proportion of predictable, un-earmarked voluntary contributions, also referred to as "negotiated core voluntary contributions".
3. With regard to the implementation of efficiency projects, and the setting of clear and measurable efficiency targets for the 2006–2007 and future budgets (also requested in the resolution) a revised mid-term review of the Programme budget has been instigated in order to provide both a more comprehensive appraisal of achievement at the mid-term and lessons for reprogramming and drawing up the subsequent biennium's Programme budget.
4. The most important efficiency initiative under way concerns administrative processes and procedures, which are being substantially changed and modernized with the new global management system, which is due to be launched in 2008. This system, which will replace existing systems for planning, budgeting and accounting, and managing human resources, travel, procurement and payroll, will significantly re-shape and integrate administrative procedures in these areas.
5. An associated initiative is the establishment of a global service centre for routine processing of certain functions in finance, information technology and management of human resources. This centre will facilitate further efficiencies in carrying out these core administrative functions.
6. The performance of the Organization at all levels will be strengthened by improving administrative efficiency and by enhancing managerial decision-making through quicker and better-quality management information.
7. In order to launch the global management system at headquarters successfully, and to set up the global service centre, a further investment, estimated at US\$ 7 million, is required in 2007. This includes certain information technology investment costs, which were anticipated in the approved Programme budget 2006–2007 but for which insufficient funding is available in 2007. It is proposed

that any Miscellaneous Income surplus to the requirement approved in the Programme budget 2006–2007 should be used to finance this additional spending. In the event that Miscellaneous Income is unavailable, efforts will be made to finance these crucial expenditures by deferring other costs to the 2008–2009 biennium.

ACTION BY THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

8. The Health Assembly is invited to consider, in the light of any recommendations by the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee, the proposal to use any surplus Miscellaneous Income over and above the initial US\$ 31.8 million authorized by resolution WHA58.4, to finance crucial information technology and other investment costs relating to the implementation of the global management system at headquarters and the establishment of a global service centre.

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