

Updated timeline for proposing World Health Assembly resolutions and decisions for consideration by the 160th session of the Executive Board

Actions		Timing
0.	Preparatory guidance before Member State action The Secretariat to make available to all Member States: – Resolution and decision proposal timeline; – Resolution and decision template and checklist; – Initial guidance on the number of resolutions and decisions that could reasonably be considered by Member States during the negotiation period of the current cycle.	For EB 160th session: 1 September 2026
1.	Initiation of the process Initiation of the process can be started by Member States at any time before the stated time frame. The process consists of: 1.1. Member State (proposer) decides to introduce a draft Health Assembly resolution or decision. 1.2. Proposer to contact the Secretariat to discuss the process and the proposal. 1.3. Secretariat to discuss the content with proposer, including initial confirmation that the resolution or decision does not duplicate existing mandates and activities. 1.4. Proposer to develop and provide early draft and concept note to the Secretariat via a secure WHO webpage, for initial costings and for guidance relating to adherence to criteria.	Aim to provide early draft to Secretariat in late September. Allow Secretariat 10 days to provide the required costing, and guidance back to the proposer.
2.	Finalization of concept note and zero draft proposal 2.1. Proposer to consider Secretariat's guidance and complete and attach to the zero draft a cover page, stating the proposal's adherence to the criteria. 2.2. Proposer is encouraged to make further edits at this stage to ensure adherence to criteria or provide a rationale on the cover page for any criteria not met. 2.2.1. Proposers could request additional Secretariat feedback prior to formal submission. 2.3. Proposer submits zero draft text and concept note to Secretariat through the secure WHO webpage.	Trigger deadline 1: For EB 160th session: 16 October 2026

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3.	Consultations among Member States Following the trigger deadline on the submission of zero draft proposal: 3.1. The Secretariat to circulate to all Member States the link and password to a secure WHO webpage containing: – a list of all resolutions and decisions that will be considered through this process during this cycle; – zero drafts, concept notes and initial costings for each proposal; – guidance on the number of resolutions and decisions that could reasonably be considered during the negotiation period of the cycle without resorting to out-of-hours meetings. 3.2. The Secretariat to coordinate (with proposer) scheduling, room reservations, technical/logistical support for consultations. 3.2.1. Secretariat and proposer to consider scheduling of consultations (with a focus on time between consultations) to ensure that all Member States can adequately and meaningfully engage with each consultation. 3.2.2. Secretariat and proposer retain flexibility on scheduling, but as a matter of good practice should aim to have a minimum of five business days between the circulation of consultation documents and the consultation. 3.2.3. Secretariat should, in the first instance, preference the scheduling of consultations for proposals that have met the criteria requirements in full (as identified by the proposer) or proposals that address a public health emergency of international concern or humanitarian crisis. Consultations will still go ahead for all proposals. 3.3. Secretariat to publish dates for informal consultations on the online informal list of intergovernmental meetings and provide connection details to all Member States through the secure webpage. 3.4. Proposer to circulate meeting invitations and other relevant consultation documents to all Member States through email and the secure webpage. 3.5. Proposer to conduct consultations, supported throughout by the Secretariat (including moderation, on-screen text editing, costing, technical advice and other support, as needed). 3.6. Secretariat to support and/or enable Member States to calculate the cost estimates of changes to the zero draft text. 3.7. Proposer to achieve consensus text and finalize co-sponsors.	Secretariat to circulate proposals to all Member State by: For EB 160th session: 23 October 2026 Aim to complete consultations for EB 160th session by 18 December 2026
4.	Submission of text 4.1. Proposer (or, if non-EB member, then EB co-sponsor) to submit text to the Secretariat for final costings through the secure webpage. 4.1.1. Co-sponsors to be confirmed through the secure webpage.	Trigger deadline 2: Three weeks before the start of PBAC session (30 December)

Actions		Timing
	Actions upon trigger deadline: Submission of consensus text to Secretariat (4.1) will trigger the following actions. 4.2. Secretariat to conduct final costing of all consensus text resolutions and develop a single overview document, presenting the consolidated cost estimates, noting the financial and administrative implications of implementing each resolution. 4.3. Secretariat to produce a conference paper containing the final version of the document.	
5.	PBAC to review budgetary implications of resolutions and decisions 5.1. Under a singular standing agenda item, PBAC to review resolution from a financial perspective and provide recommendations to the Executive Board. 5.1.1. To support Member State discussion on this item, the Secretariat should prepare an agenda paper that outlines the financial implications of all resolutions considered that cycle and their respective impact on the budget. 5.2. The second PBAC meeting of the year (May) to consider the financial implications of any outstanding resolutions and decisions being consulted on during the intersessional period.	Relevant scheduled governing body meeting.
6.	Consideration by governing bodies 6.1. The Executive Board may decide whether to recommend the proposal for adoption to the World Health Assembly, or indicate that further consultations are required. 6.2. If adopted by the World Health Assembly, Secretariat to reflect the financial impact of resolutions and decisions in a subsequent update to the programme budget, where applicable.	Relevant scheduled governing body meeting.
7.	Evaluation and reporting Secretariat reports back to the governing bodies on the implementation (including evaluated performance) of the resolution or decision according to the mandate	Reporting intervals included in the resolution/decision should be based on mandate management advice provided by the Secretariat.