

International Agency for Research on Cancer: amendments to Statute

Report by the Secretariat

1. At its Fiftieth Session (Lyon, France, 14–16 May 2008), the Governing Council of the International Agency for Research on Cancer adopted amendments to Article VI of the Statute¹ of the Agency relating to: the number of members of the Scientific Council; the means by which members of the Scientific Council are nominated; and advice to be provided concerning the expertise required on the Scientific Council in the identification of members, as set forth in resolution GC/50/R15 (Annex 1). Annex 2 contains the current text of Article VI of the Statute and Article VI as amended by the Governing Council.
2. The Governing Council considered that a scientist from each Participating State should take part in the work of the Scientific Council, in accordance with established practice, while recognizing that each member of the Scientific Council would continue to be selected on the basis of individual technical competence and not appointed as a representative of a Participating State.
3. The Governing Council noted that in May 2007 the total number of Participating States had reached 20, which is the maximum number of members of the Scientific Council currently permitted under the Statute of the Agency (Article VI.I). Consequently, if another Member State of WHO were to be admitted as a Participating State of IARC, it would not be possible for a scientist from each Participating State to take part in the work of the Scientific Council.
4. The Governing Council considered that it would be preferable to amend the Statute in order to make it sufficiently flexible to permit an increase in the membership of the Scientific Council without a need to amend the Statute each time that the number of Participating States increases.
5. The Governing Council further considered that, in order to ensure that the expertise of members of the Scientific Council reflects IARC's needs, Participating States should consider advice to be provided by the Chairman of the Scientific Council and the Director of the Agency concerning the expertise required on the Scientific Council when nominating experts for membership in the Scientific Council.

¹ *WHO Basic Documents*, 46th ed., pp. 173–178. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2007

6. Under the provisions of Article X of IARC's Statute, amendments shall come into force when adopted by the Governing Council by a two thirds majority of its members who are representatives of Participating States and when accepted by the Health Assembly.

ACTION BY THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

7. The Health Assembly is invited to consider the following draft resolution:

The Sixty-first World Health Assembly,

Considering the amendments to Article VI of the Statute of the International Agency for Research on Cancer adopted by the Governing Council at its Fiftieth Session;

Considering the provisions of Article X of the Statute of the Agency;

ACCEPTS the following amendment to the Statute of the Agency, which shall enter into force forthwith:

Article VI – The Scientific Council

- (1) The Scientific Council shall be composed of highly qualified scientists, selected on the basis of their technical competence in cancer research and allied fields. Members of the Scientific Council are appointed as experts and not as representatives of Participating States.
- (2) Each Participating State shall nominate up to two experts for membership in the Scientific Council for appointment of one of them by the Governing Council.
- (3) In identifying experts to be considered for appointment to the Scientific Council, Participating States shall take into account advice to be provided by the Chairman of the Scientific Council and Director of the Agency concerning the expertise required on the Scientific Council at the time of those appointments.
- (4) Members of the Scientific Council shall serve for a term of four years. Should a member not complete a term, a new appointment shall be made for the remainder of the term to which the member would have been entitled, in accordance with paragraph 5.
- (5) When a vacancy arises on the Scientific Council, the Participating State that nominated the departing member shall nominate up to two experts to replace that member in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. Any member leaving the Scientific Council, other than a member appointed for a reduced term, may be reappointed only after at least one year has elapsed.

ANNEX 1

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE

INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DE RECHERCHE SUR LE CANCER

**Governing Council
Fiftieth Session**

GC/50/R15

*Lyon, 14–16 May 2008
Auditorium*

AMENDMENT TO THE STATUTE OF THE AGENCY

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed the Report of the Governing Council Subcommittee on the role and responsibilities of the Scientific Council (Document GC/50/9), including Annex 1, Composition of the Scientific Council,

RESOLVES that Article VI of the Statute of the Agency be amended to read as follows:
Article VI – The Scientific Council

1. The Scientific Council shall be composed of highly qualified scientists, selected on the basis of their technical competence in cancer research and allied fields. Members of the Scientific Council are appointed as experts and not as representatives of Participating States.
2. Each Participating State may nominate up to two experts for membership in the Scientific Council and, if a Participating State makes such a nomination, the Governing Council shall appoint one of them.
3. In identifying experts to be considered for appointment to the Scientific Council, Participating States shall take into account advice to be provided by the Chairperson of the Scientific Council and Director of the Agency concerning the expertise required on the Scientific Council at the time of those appointments.

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4. Members of the Scientific Council shall serve for a term of four years. Should a member not complete a term, a new appointment shall be made for the remainder of the term to which the member would have been entitled, in accordance with paragraph 5.
5. When a vacancy arises on the Scientific Council, the Participating State that nominated the departing member may nominate up to two experts to replace that member in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. Any member leaving the Scientific Council, other than a member appointed for a reduced term, may be reappointed only after at least one year has elapsed.
6. The Scientific Council shall be responsible for:
 - (a) adopting its own rules of procedure;
 - (b) the periodical evaluation of the activities of the Agency;
 - (c) recommending programmes of permanent activities and preparing special projects for submission to the Governing Council;
 - (d) the periodical evaluation of special projects sponsored by the Agency;
 - (e) reporting to the Governing Council, for consideration at the time that body considers the programme and budget, upon the matters dealt with in subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d) above.

ANNEX 2

Current Text	Text as amended by the Governing Council ¹
<p><i>Article VI – The Scientific Council</i></p> <p>1. The Scientific Council shall be composed of a maximum of twenty highly qualified scientists, selected on the basis of their technical competence in cancer research and allied fields.</p> <p>2. The members of the Scientific Council shall be appointed by the Governing Council. The Director-General of the World Health Organization, after consultation with qualified scientific organizations, shall propose a list of experts to the Governing Council.</p> <p>3. The members of the Scientific Council shall serve for a term of four years. However, the Governing Council may make appointments for a shorter term if this is necessary to maintain balanced annual rotation of members of the Scientific Council.</p> <p>Any member leaving the Scientific Council, other than a member appointed for a reduced term, may be reappointed only after at least one year has elapsed.</p> <p>Should any vacancies occur, a new appointment shall be made for the remainder of the term to which the member would have been entitled.</p> <p>4. The Scientific Council shall be responsible for:</p> <p>(a) adopting its own rules of procedure;</p> <p>(b) the periodical evaluation of the activities of the Agency;</p> <p>(c) recommending programmes of permanent activities and preparing special projects for submission to the Governing Council;</p>	<p><i>Article VI – The Scientific Council</i></p> <p>1. The Scientific Council shall be composed of a maximum of twenty highly qualified scientists, selected on the basis of their technical competence in cancer research and allied fields. Members of the Scientific Council are appointed as experts and not as representatives of Participating States.</p> <p>2. The members of the Scientific Council shall be appointed by the Governing Council. The Director-General of the World Health Organization, after consultation with qualified scientific organizations, shall propose a list of experts to the Governing Council.</p> <p>2. Each Participating State may nominate up to two experts for membership in the Scientific Council and, if a Participating State makes such a nomination, the Governing Council shall appoint one of them.</p> <p>3. In identifying experts to be considered for appointment to the Scientific Council, Participating States shall take into account advice to be provided by the Chairperson of the Scientific Council and Director of the Agency concerning the expertise required on the Scientific Council at the time of those appointments.</p> <p>4. 3. The members of the Scientific Council shall serve for a term of four years. However, the Governing Council may make appointments for a shorter term if this is necessary to maintain balanced annual rotation of members of the Scientific Council.</p> <p>Any member leaving the Scientific Council, other than a member appointed for a reduced term, may be reappointed only after at least one year has elapsed.</p>

¹ Amendments which are deletions to the current text are struck through; additions are in bold typeface.

<p>(d) the periodical evaluation of special projects sponsored by the Agency;</p> <p>(e) reporting to the Governing Council, for consideration at the time that body considers the programme and budget, upon the matters dealt with in sub-paragraphs (b, (c) and (d) above.</p>	<p>Should any vacancies occur, a new appointment shall be made for the remainder of the term to which the member would have been entitled.</p> <p>Should a member not complete a term, a new appointment shall be made for the remainder of the term to which the member would have been entitled, accordance with paragraph 5.</p> <p>5. When a vacancy arises on the Scientific Council, the Participating State that nominated the departing member may nominate up to two experts to replace that member in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. Any member leaving the Scientific Council, other than a member appointed for a reduced term, may be reappointed only after at least one year has elapsed.</p> <p>6. [Same as current Article VI.4]</p>
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