

Status of collection of assessed contributions

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the status of collection of assessed contributions;¹

Taking into account the genuine difficulties faced by some developing countries arising out of adverse international economic factors beyond their control,

1. EXPRESSES its deep concern at:
 - (1) the continuing high level of outstanding contributions by Member States;
 - (2) the effect of such delays on the programme of work approved by the Health Assembly;
2. URGES Members that are in arrears to pay their outstanding contributions before the Fifty-first World Health Assembly;
3. RECOMMENDS to the Fifty-first World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Fifty-first World Health Assembly,

Noting with concern that, as at 31 December 1997:

- (1) the rate of collection in 1997 of contributions to the effective working budget for that year amounted to 78.27%, leaving US\$ 91 110 877 unpaid with respect to 1997 contributions;
- (2) only 105 Members had paid their current-year contributions to the effective working budget in full, and 61 Members had made no payment towards their current year contributions;
- (3) total unpaid contributions in respect of 1997 and prior years exceeded US\$ 174 million,

1. EXPRESSES deep concern at the continuing high level of outstanding contributions, which has had a deleterious effect on the work programme and financial situation;

¹ Document EB101/25.

2. CALLS THE ATTENTION of all Members to Financial Regulation 5.6, which provides that instalments of contributions shall be considered as due and payable in full by the first day of the year to which they relate, and to the importance of paying contributions as early as possible to enable the Director-General to implement the programme budget in an orderly manner;
3. RECALLS that, as a result of the adoption, by resolution WHA41.12, of an incentive scheme to promote the timely payment of assessed contributions, Members that pay their assessed contributions early in the year in which they are due will have their contributions payable for a subsequent programme budget reduced appreciably, whereas Members paying later will see their contributions payable for that subsequent programme budget reduced only marginally or not at all;
4. URGES Members that are systematically late in the payment of their contributions to take immediate steps to ensure prompt and regular payment;
5. REQUESTS the Director-General to continue to review, taking into account developments in other organizations in the United Nations system, all additional measures that may be appropriate to the circumstances of WHO with a view to ensuring a sound financial basis for the work programme and to report on this matter to the Executive Board at its 103rd session and the Fifty-second World Health Assembly;
6. REQUESTS the Director-General to draw this resolution to the attention of all Members.

Sixteenth meeting, 27 January 1998
EB101/SR/16

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