



# WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
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## **Report on expert advisory panels and committees and their membership**

**Report by the Secretariat<sup>1</sup>**

### **ESTABLISHMENT OR DISESTABLISHMENT OF EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS**

1. An Expert Advisory Panel on Blood Transfusion Medicine was established, in response to worldwide concern for blood safety.
2. The Expert Advisory Panel on Environmental Pollution and Hazards, which had a small membership, has been incorporated into the Expert Advisory Panel on Environmental Health.
3. The title of the Expert Advisory Panel on Venereal Diseases, Treponematoses and Neisseria Infections has been changed to the Expert Advisory Panel on Sexually Transmitted Infections including those due to Human Immunodeficiency Virus. The new title reflects the current broader approach to the prevention and control of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV.
4. A subpanel of the Expert Advisory Panel on Drug Dependence and Alcohol Problems has been established in order to make a clear distinction between two related areas in different clusters. Called the Expert Advisory Panel on Drug Dependence (Dependence Liability Evaluation), it will deal principally with the evaluation of psychoactive drugs with regard to dependence, and propose their international control. It will do so in support of the main panel, whose core task is to review demand reduction measures (prevention, treatment and rehabilitation).

### **MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS**

5. Membership of the 55 expert advisory panels totalled 1803 in December 1998, compared with 1888 in December 1997. Of the 1803 experts, 272 are women.

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<sup>1</sup> This report is submitted to the Executive Board in compliance with the Regulations for Expert Advisory Panels and Committees (*WHO Basic Documents*, 41st edition, p. 98).

6. A summary of numbers of panel members of WHO expert advisory panels by subject and region, as of December 1998, indicating women experts, is given in the Annex. Further details can be made available at the request of Board members.

## **MEETINGS OF EXPERT COMMITTEES**

7. The following committees met in 1998:

50th Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives, Rome, 17-26 February 1998 (seven WHO members - one woman)

51st Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives, Geneva, 9-18 June 1998 (six WHO members - one woman)

31st Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, Geneva, 23-26 June 1998 (eight members - one woman)

Expert Committee on Biological Standardization, Geneva, 19-23 October 1998 (eight members - two women)

20th Expert Committee on Malaria, Geneva, 19-27 October 1998 (eight members - one woman)

Advisory Committee on Health Research (36th session), Geneva, 20-23 October 1998 (15 members - one woman)

Committee on International Surveillance of Communicable Diseases, Geneva, 16-20 November 1998 (seven members - one woman)

Expert Committee on Determinants of Healthy Ageing, Geneva, 1-7 December 1998 (10 members - six women).

8. Invitations to take part in these meetings were extended to 69 panel members from 36 different countries, drawn from 14 expert advisory panels.

## ANNEX

### MEMBERSHIP OF WHO EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS BY PANEL AND REGION

(Number of panel members, as of December 1998; number of women members in square brackets)

WHO expert advisory panels	Africa		The Americas		South-East Asia		Europe		Eastern Mediterranean		Western Pacific		Total	
Accident prevention	2	[0]	9	[3]	1	[0]	8	[2]	0	[0]	2	[0]	22	[5]
Acute bacterial diseases	1	[0]	8	[1]	3	[0]	29	[4]	3	[0]	4	[2]	48	[7]
Acute diarrhoeal diseases and other enteric infections	0	[0]	1	[0]	4	[2]	3	[0]	0	[0]	2	[0]	10	[2]
Ageing and health	3	[3]	6	[3]	3	[1]	12	[2]	2	[1]	4	[1]	30	[11]
Biological standardization	1	[0]	10	[4]	5	[2]	26	[2]	4	[1]	6	[1]	52	[10]
Blood transfusion medicine	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[0]	2	[1]	0	[0]	3	[2]	6	[3]
Brucellosis	0	[0]	1	[0]	0	[0]	1	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	2	[0]
Cancer	2	[0]	12	[3]	4	[2]	17	[0]	1	[0]	6	[1]	42	[6]
Cardiovascular diseases	8	[0]	17	[2]	9	[2]	24	[1]	5	[0]	14	[1]	77	[6]
Chronic degenerative diseases (diabetes)	4	[0]	3	[0]	3	[1]	9	[0]	1	[0]	3	[1]	23	[2]
Chronic degenerative diseases (rheumatic diseases)	0	[0]	1	[0]	1	[0]	1	[1]	0	[0]	1	[0]	4	[1]
Communications and public affairs	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]
Development of human resources for health	6	[2]	7	[2]	5	[0]	8	[0]	4	[0]	4	[0]	34	[4]
Drug dependence and alcohol problems	2	[0]	4	[2]	1	[0]	19	[5]	1	[0]	7	[2]	34	[9]
Drug dependence (dependence liability evaluation)	1	[1]	10	[0]	0	[0]	3	[0]	2	[0]	3	[1]	19	[1]
Drug evaluation	8	[1]	9	[2]	4	[1]	14	[1]	7	[1]	6	[0]	48	[6]
Drug policies and management	6	[1]	5	[1]	3	[0]	7	[0]	2	[0]	8	[1]	31	[3]
Emergency and humanitarian action	0	[0]	2	[1]	1	[0]	1	[0]	0	[0]	2	[0]	6	[1]
Environmental health	4	[0]	9	[1]	5	[0]	6	[0]	3	[0]	2	[0]	29	[1]
Food safety	4	[0]	17	[3]	2	[1]	17	[1]	1	[0]	4	[0]	45	[5]

WHO expert advisory panels	Africa		The Americas		South-East Asia		Europe		Eastern Mediterranean		Western Pacific		Total	
Health and biomedical information	0	[0]	2	[0]	0	[0]	2	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	4	[0]
Health laboratory services	5	[1]	11	[2]	2	[1]	18	[3]	6	[2]	7	[2]	49	[11]
Health of seafarers	0	[0]	1	[0]	0	[0]	5	[0]	0	[0]	1	[0]	7	[0]
Health promotion and education	3	[0]	1	[0]	1	[1]	1	[0]	1	[1]	1	[1]	8	[3]
Health science and technology policy	6	[1]	8	[1]	3	[0]	11	[0]	1	[0]	7	[1]	36	[3]
Health situation and trend assessment	4	[0]	5	[2]	4	[0]	16	[4]	6	[1]	8	[2]	43	[9]
Human blood products and related substances	4	[0]	3	[0]	2	[1]	4	[1]	3	[1]	2	[1]	18	[4]
Human genetics	2	[0]	10	[1]	2	[0]	15	[1]	2	[0]	4	[1]	35	[3]
Human reproduction	0	[0]	1	[1]	2	[0]	4	[0]	0	[0]	2	[2]	9	[3]
Immunology	0	[0]	9	[0]	5	[1]	18	[0]	3	[1]	4	[0]	39	[2]
International pharmacopoeia and pharmaceutical preparations	13	[0]	9	[4]	6	[2]	27	[6]	4	[0]	9	[0]	68	[12]
Leprosy	2	[0]	8	[1]	6	[0]	11	[1]	2	[0]	6	[1]	35	[3]
Malaria	4	[0]	5	[0]	13	[3]	17	[0]	7	[0]	3	[0]	49	[3]
Maternal and child health	2	[1]	7	[1]	4	[2]	5	[3]	8	[3]	6	[3]	33	[13]
Mental health	8	[1]	18	[3]	4	[2]	33	[5]	8	[1]	16	[3]	87	[15]
Neurosciences	1	[0]	3	[0]	2	[1]	12	[1]	2	[0]	4	[0]	24	[2]
Nursing	6	[5]	12	[12]	4	[4]	4	[4]	6	[6]	5	[5]	37	[36]
Nutrition	1	[0]	10	[1]	8	[3]	17	[2]	4	[1]	5	[1]	45	[8]
Occupational health	6	[0]	9	[1]	3	[1]	20	[1]	13	[1]	14	[2]	65	[6]
Oral health	5	[2]	8	[1]	5	[2]	24	[2]	5	[0]	8	[0]	55	[7]
Organization of medical care	2	[0]	3	[0]	2	[0]	10	[0]	1	[0]	1	[0]	19	[0]
Parasitic diseases (filarial infections)	4	[1]	3	[1]	2	[0]	6	[0]	0	[0]	3	[1]	18	[3]
Parasitic diseases (general parasitology)	4	[0]	6	[1]	3	[0]	13	[1]	1	[0]	4	[0]	31	[2]

WHO expert advisory panels	Africa		The Americas		South-East Asia		Europe		Eastern Mediterranean		Western Pacific		Total	
Parasitic diseases (leishmaniasis)	0	[0]	2	[0]	2	[0]	9	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	13	[0]
Parasitic diseases (schistosomiasis)	2	[0]	10	[0]	1	[0]	8	[0]	4	[0]	8	[0]	33	[0]
Parasitic diseases (trypanosomiasis)	1	[0]	7	[1]	0	[0]	4	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	12	[1]
Prevention of blindness	2	[1]	7	[2]	4	[0]	7	[1]	4	[0]	7	[0]	31	[4]
Prevention of deafness and hearing impairment	2	[0]	3	[0]	2	[1]	4	[1]	2	[0]	3	[0]	16	[2]
Public health administration	7	[1]	7	[1]	5	[1]	8	[0]	9	[0]	4	[0]	40	[3]
Rabies	2	[0]	3	[0]	1	[0]	1	[0]	1	[0]	1	[0]	9	[0]
Radiation	1	[0]	5	[0]	4	[2]	12	[0]	1	[0]	5	[1]	28	[3]
Rehabilitation	0	[0]	2	[0]	1	[1]	1	[0]	2	[1]	3	[1]	9	[3]
Respiratory infections	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[0]	0	[0]	3	[0]	4	[0]
Sexually transmitted infections including those due to human immunodeficiency virus	2	[0]	6	[1]	2	[0]	5	[1]	0	[0]	4	[0]	19	[2]
Tobacco or health	1	[0]	4	[0]	4	[1]	9	[2]	2	[0]	5	[1]	25	[4]
Traditional medicine	5	[0]	6	[1]	4	[1]	0	[0]	2	[0]	6	[1]	23	[3]
Tuberculosis	2	[1]	3	[0]	1	[0]	3	[0]	1	[0]	2	[0]	13	[1]
Vector biology and control	4	[0]	10	[0]	7	[2]	17	[3]	7	[1]	10	[1]	55	[7]
Virus diseases	2	[0]	13	[0]	8	[2]	33	[4]	4	[0]	11	[1]	71	[7]
Virus diseases (antivirals and interferon)	0	[0]	2	[0]	0	[0]	6	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	8	[0]
Zoonoses	0	[0]	4	[0]	4	[1]	7	[1]	1	[0]	2	[0]	18	[2]
<b>Total</b>	167	[22]	377	[67]	188	[47]	635	[68]	159	[23]	277	[45]	1 803	[272]