

Report on meetings of expert committees and study groups

Expert advisory panels and committees and their membership

Report by the Director-General¹

ESTABLISHMENT OR DISESTABLISHMENT OF EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS

1. The following panels were disestablished:

The panel on General Parasitology was disestablished in May 2021

The panel on Schistosomiasis was disestablished in May 2021

The panel on Management of Noncommunicable Diseases was disestablished in September 2021

The panel on Health Science and Technology Policy was disestablished in September 2021

The panel on Nutrition was disestablished in October 2021

The panel on Human Cell, Tissue and Organ Transplantation was disestablished in November 2021.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS

2. Membership of the 35 expert advisory panels totalled 356 in November 2021, compared with 485 in November 2020. In terms of regional distribution, 13% come from the African Region, 22% from the Region of the Americas, 9% from the South-East Asia Region, 30% from the European Region, 10% from the Eastern Mediterranean Region and 16% from the Western Pacific Region. Of the total of all members of all panels, 40% are women.

3. The annexed list of all panels includes a breakdown of members by panel, region and sex, as at November 2021. Further details (lists of experts by region and country) are available on request.

¹ This report is submitted to the Executive Board in compliance with regulation 4.23 of the Regulations for Expert Advisory Panels and Committees.

MEETINGS OF EXPERT COMMITTEES

4. The following committees met in 2021:

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Food Additives (Ninety-first meeting)
Coordinated from FAO, Rome, Italy, and took place virtually, 1–12 February 2021
(6 members: four men, two women)

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Food Additives (Ninety-second meeting)
Coordinated from FAO, Rome, Italy, and took place virtually, 7–18 June 2021
(8 members: five men, three women)

Expert Committee on Selection and Use of Essential Medicines (Twenty-third meeting)
Coordinated from WHO headquarters, Geneva, and took place virtually, 21 June–2 July 2021
(15 members: five men, ten women)

Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (Forty-fourth meeting)
Coordinated from WHO headquarters, Geneva, and took place virtually, 11–15 October 2021
(12 members: six men, six women)

Expert Committee on Biological Standardization (Seventy-fourth meeting)
Coordinated from WHO headquarters, Geneva, and took place virtually, 18–22 October 2021
(17 members: eight men, nine women).

5. Invitations to take part in these meetings were extended to 54 panel members from 29 different countries, drawn from eight expert advisory panels. Two members were not able to attend.

ANNEX

WHO EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS, MEMBERSHIP BY PANEL AND REGION¹

WHO expert advisory panels	Africa		The Americas		South-East Asia		Europe		Eastern Mediterranean		Western Pacific		Total		
	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	%
Acute bacterial diseases	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%
Ageing and health	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[1]	0	[0]	1	[1]	100%
Biological standardization	1	[1]	2	[1]	1	[1]	6	[2]	0	[0]	3	[1]	13	[6]	46%
Blood transfusion medicine	4	[3]	4	[3]	4	[2]	3	[0]	3	[1]	5	[3]	23	[12]	52%
Clinical practice guidelines and clinical research methods and ethics	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%
Drug dependence (dependence liability evaluation)	2	[2]	5	[2]	2	[2]	3	[2]	1	[1]	4	[1]	17	[10]	59%
Drug dependence and alcohol problems	1	[0]	2	[0]	0	[0]	4	[1]	2	[1]	7	[0]	16	[2]	12%
Drug evaluation	7	[3]	14	[6]	8	[6]	17	[6]	7	[2]	7	[3]	60	[26]	43%
Drug policies and management	3	[1]	2	[2]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	5	[3]	60%
Food safety	1	[0]	14	[5]	1	[1]	8	[3]	0	[0]	3	[1]	27	[10]	37%
Health laboratory services	0	[0]	2	[1]	0	[0]	4	[1]	2	[0]	0	[0]	8	[2]	25%
Health promotion	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[1]	0	[0]	1	[1]	100%
Human genetics	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%
International pharmacopoeia and pharmaceutical preparations	10	[3]	13	[9]	2	[0]	28	[12]	6	[3]	13	[2]	72	[29]	40%
Leprosy	2	[1]	0	[0]	1	[0]	3	[0]	1	[0]	1	[0]	8	[1]	12%
Medicine safety	1	[0]	4	[2]	0	[0]	2	[1]	0	[0]	2	[0]	9	[3]	33%
Mental health	1	[0]	0	[0]	2	[1]	1	[0]	1	[1]	0	[0]	5	[2]	40%

¹ Membership as at November 2021, where N is the number of panel members, [W] is the number of women members and % is the percentage of women panel members by panel and region.

WHO expert advisory panels	Africa		The Americas		South-East Asia		Europe		Eastern Mediterranean		Western Pacific		Total								
	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	N	[W]	%						
Neurosciences	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[1]	1	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	2	[1]	50%						
Nursing	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%						
Oral health	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[0]	0%						
Parasitic diseases – filarial infections	4	[2]	3	[1]	2	[1]	3	[2]	1	[0]	1	[1]	14	[7]	50%						
Parasitic diseases – leishmaniasis	2	[2]	2	[2]	3	[1]	2	[0]	1	[0]	0	[0]	10	[5]	50%						
Parasitic diseases – trypanosomiasis	3	[0]	3	[2]	0	[0]	6	[1]	0	[0]	0	[0]	12	[3]	25%						
Prevention of blindness	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%						
Prevention of deafness and hearing impairment	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[0]	0%						
Rabies	1	[0]	2	[1]	1	[0]	1	[0]	2	[1]	1	[1]	8	[3]	38%						
Radiation	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%						
Rehabilitation	0	[0]	2	[2]	1	[1]	1	[1]	1	[0]	0	[0]	5	[4]	80%						
Surgical care and anaesthesia	1	[0]	2	[1]	0	[0]	2	[2]	1	[0]	1	[0]	7	[3]	43%						
Traditional and complementary medicine	1	[0]	3	[1]	1	[0]	2	[0]	1	[0]	7	[1]	15	[2]	13%						
Tuberculosis	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%						
Vector biology and control	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[1]	6	[2]	1	[0]	1	[1]	9	[4]	44%						
Virus diseases	1	[0]	1	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	2	[0]	0%						
Virus diseases (antivirals and interferon)	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%						
Zoonoses	1	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	2	[1]	2	[1]	0	[0]	5	[2]	40%						
Total^a	47	[18]	38%	80	[41]	51%	32	[18]	56%	106	[37]	35%	35	[13]	37%	56	[15]	27%	356	[142]	40%

^a This shows the total number of experts. Members with more than one nationality are listed in all relevant panels; however, they are counted only once in this total.