

## **Report on meetings of expert committees and study groups**

### **Expert advisory panels and committees and their membership**

#### **Report by the Director-General<sup>1</sup>**

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

1. The following panels were disestablished:
  - (a) panel on Clinical Practice Guidelines and Clinical Research Methods and Ethics, in August 2022;
  - (b) panel on Ageing, in September 2022;
  - (c) panel on Blindness, in October 2022;
  - (d) panel on Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Impairment, in October 2022;
  - (e) panel on Tuberculosis, in October 2022;
  - (f) panel on Human Genetics, in October 2022;
  - (g) panel on Oral Health, in October 2022;
  - (h) panel on Neurosciences, in October 2022;
  - (i) panel on Mental Health, in October 2022;
  - (j) panel on Health Promotion, in November 2022;
  - (k) panel on Virus Diseases, in November 2022; and
  - (l) panel on Virus Diseases (Antivirals and Interferon), in November 2022.
2. The panel on Acute Bacterial Diseases changed its name to the panel on Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness and Prevention, in October 2022.

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

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS

3. Membership of the 23 expert advisory panels totalled 345 in November 2022, compared with 356 in November 2021. In terms of regional distribution, 13% come from the African Region, 23% from the Region of the Americas, 9% from the South-East Asia Region, 30% from the European Region, 9% from the Eastern Mediterranean Region and 16% from the Western Pacific Region. Of the total of all members of all panels, 41% are women.

4. The annexed list of all panels includes a breakdown of members by panel, region and sex, as at November 2022. Further details (lists of experts by region and country) are available on request.

## MEETINGS OF EXPERT COMMITTEES

5. The following committees met in 2022:

(a) Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (Ninety-third meeting)  
Coordinated from WHO headquarters, Geneva, and took place virtually, 24, 25, 29, 30 March and 1 April 2022 (seven members: five men, two women);

(b) Expert Committee on Biological Standardization (Seventy-fifth meeting)  
Coordinated from WHO headquarters, Geneva, and took place virtually, 4–8 April 2022  
(23 members: 11 men, 12 women);

(c) Expert Committee on Specifications for Pharmaceutical Preparations (Fifty-sixth meeting)  
Coordinated from WHO headquarters, Geneva, and took place virtually, 25 April–2 May 2022  
(17 members: nine men, eight women);

(d) Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (Ninety-fourth meeting)  
Coordinated from WHO headquarters, Geneva, and took place virtually, 16–27 May 2022  
(two members: one man, one woman);<sup>1</sup>

(e) Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (Ninety-fifth meeting)  
Coordinated from FAO headquarters, Rome, and took place virtually, 6–17 June 2022  
(seven members: four men, three women);<sup>2</sup>

(f) Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (Forty-fifth meeting)  
WHO headquarters, Geneva, 10–13 October 2022  
(12 members: six men, six women); and

(g) Expert Committee on Biological Standardization (Seventy-sixth meeting)  
Coordinated from WHO headquarters, Geneva, and took place virtually, 24–26 October 2022  
(22 members: 11 men, 11 women)

6. Invitations to take part in these meetings were extended to 63 panel members from 30 different countries, drawn from six expert advisory panels. Four members were unable to attend.

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<sup>1</sup> This is the number of members selected and appointed by WHO. As it is the case in all joint expert committee meetings, there were also a number of members selected and appointed by FAO who are not included in this report.

<sup>2</sup> With an additional day on 22 June 2022 for adoption of the report.

## ANNEX

### WHO EXPERT ADVISORY PANELS, MEMBERSHIP BY PANEL AND REGION<sup>1</sup>

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]	%
Biological Standardization	2	[1]	5	[3]	3	[2]	5	[1]	0	[0]	4	[1]	19	[8]	42%
Blood Transfusion Medicine	4	[3]	4	[3]	4	[2]	2	[0]	3	[1]	5	[3]	22	[12]	55%
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	9	[6]	13	[6]	10	[7]	19	[6]	6	[1]	6	[3]	63	[29]	46%
Drug Policies and Management	3	[1]	2	[2]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	5	[3]	60%
Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness and Prevention	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%
Food Safety	1	[0]	13	[5]	0	[0]	10	[4]	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%
International Pharmacopoeia and Pharmaceutical Preparations	7	[1]	13	[9]	3	[1]	29	[12]	6	[4]	13	[2]	71	[29]	41%
Leprosy	2	[1]	0	[0]	1	[0]	3	[0]	1	[0]	1	[0]	8	[1]	12%

<sup>1</sup> Membership as at November 2022, 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]	%
Medicine Safety	1	[0]	4	[2]	0	[0]	2	[1]	0	[0]	1	[0]	8	[3]	38%
Nursing	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	0%
Parasitic Diseases – Filarial Infections	3	[2]	3	[1]	2	[1]	3	[2]	1	[0]	1	[1]	13	[7]	54%
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%
Rabies	1	[0]	2	[1]	1	[0]	1	[0]	1	[1]	1	[1]	7	[3]	43%
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%
Vector Biology and Control	0	[0]	0	[0]	1	[1]	5	[1]	1	[0]	1	[1]	8	[4]	50%
Zoonoses	1	[0]	0	[0]	0	[0]	2	[2]	1	[1]	0	[0]	4	[2]	50%
<b>Total<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>44</b>	<b>[19] 43%</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>[43] 54%</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>[18] 56%</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>[37] 35%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>[10] 34%</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>[15] 27%</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>[142] 41%</b>	

<sup>a</sup> 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.