Process of handling and investigating potential allegations against WHO Directors-General

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee¹ and, at its private session, having considered the outcome of the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly,

Decided:

(1) to welcome the report of the leads for Member State-led governance reform on a process for handling and investigating potential allegations against WHO Directors-General;

(2) to request the leads for Member State-led governance reform to continue to chair consultations on this matter, including by involving regional groups, with a view to finalizing draft procedures for consideration by the Executive Board at its 156th session in 2025;

(3) to ensure that the consultations should remain open-ended, maintaining inclusivity and transparency;

(4) to urge all Member States to participate actively in all consultations; and, as appropriate, to hold regional discussions among themselves including through or on the margins of the regional committees;

(5) to request the leads for Member State-led governance reform, with the support of Secretariat, to continue to provide regular informal progress briefings to Member States regarding development of the revised draft. This should include intersessional briefings on the current document with all WHO regions to foster a shared understanding of the approach and to continue incorporating considerations already taken into account in developing the procedures presented to the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly;

(6) to request the Independent Expert Oversight Advisory Committee, and Secretariat staff that are appropriately positioned and capable of providing impartial guidance free of any real or perceived conflicts of interest in the outcome of the draft procedures, to provide timely advice and support to Member States.

¹ Document EB155/2.