



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

FIFTY-EIGHTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

(Draft) A58/56
21 May 2005

Fourth report of Committee A

(Draft)

Committee A held its seventh and eighth meetings on 20 May 2005 under the chairmanship of Dr Bijan Sadrizadeh (Islamic Republic of Iran).

It was decided to recommend to the Fifty-eighth World Health Assembly the adoption of the attached resolutions relating to the following agenda items:

12. Proposed programme budget 2006-2007

One resolution entitled:

– Appropriation resolution for the financial period 2006-2007

13. Technical and health matters

13.9 Strengthening pandemic influenza preparedness and response

One resolution

Agenda item 12

Appropriation resolution for the financial period 2006-2007

The Fifty-eighth World Health Assembly,

1. RESOLVES to appropriate for the financial period 2006-2007 an amount of US\$ 995 315 000 under the regular budget as follows:

Appropriation section	Purpose of appropriation	Amount
		US\$
1.	Essential health interventions	238 343 000
2.	Health policies, systems and products	164 913 000
3.	Determinants of health	96 156 000
4.	Enabling programme delivery	251 770 000
5.	WHO's core presence in countries	128 624 000
6.	Other	35 509 000
	Effective working budget	915 315 000
7.	Transfer to Tax Equalization Fund	80 000 000
	Total	995 315 000

2. RESOLVES to finance the regular budget for the financial period 2006-2007 as follows:

Source of financing	Amount
	US\$
Estimated Miscellaneous Income	22 200 000
Regular budget net assessments on Members (see also paragraph 3(3) below)	893 115 000
Transfer to Tax Equalization Fund	80 000 000
Total	995 315 000

3. FURTHER RESOLVES that:

(1) notwithstanding the provisions of Financial Regulation 4.3, the Director-General is authorized to make transfers between the appropriation sections of the effective working budget up to an amount not exceeding 10% of the amount appropriated for the section from which the transfer is made; all such transfers shall be reported in the financial report for the financial period 2006-2007; any other transfers required shall be made and reported in accordance with the provisions of Financial Regulation 4.3;

(2) amounts not exceeding the appropriations voted under paragraph 1 shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred during the financial period 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2007 in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Regulations; notwithstanding the provisions of the present paragraph, the Director-General shall limit the obligations to be incurred during the financial period 2006-2007 to sections 1 to 6;

(3) the amount of the contribution to be paid by individual Members shall be reduced by the sum standing to their credit in the Tax Equalization Fund; that reduction shall be adjusted in the case of those Members that require staff members to pay income taxes on their WHO emoluments, taxes which the Organization reimburses to said staff members; the amount of such reimbursements is estimated at US\$ 9 114 080, resulting in a total assessment on Members of US\$ 902 229 080;

4. DECIDES:

(1) that with reference to resolution WHA56.34 and notwithstanding the provisions of Financial Regulation 5.1, an amount of US\$ 8 655 000 shall be financed directly by the Miscellaneous Income account to provide an adjustment mechanism for the benefit of those Member States that will experience an increase in the rate of assessment between that applicable for the 2000-2001 financial period and for the 2006-2007 financial period and notify the Organization that they wish to benefit from the adjustment mechanism;

(2) that the amount required to meet payments under the financial incentive scheme for 2006 and for 2007 in accordance with Financial Regulation 6.5, estimated at US\$ 1 000 000, shall be financed directly by the Miscellaneous Income account;

(3) that the level of the Working Capital Fund shall remain at the level of US\$ 31 000 000 as decided earlier under resolution WHA56.32;

5. NOTES that the expenditure in the programme budget for 2006-2007 to be financed by voluntary contributions is estimated at US\$ 2 398 126 000, leading to a total effective budget under all sources of funds of US\$ 3 313 441 000;

6. COMMENDS the Director-General on the further progress in implementing a results-based management framework, and supports the systematic review of all WHO core managerial and administrative policies and processes with the aim of simplifying and changing the way WHO works to achieve greater impact while maintaining operations of lower cost;

7. REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) to provide as from the 116th session of the Executive Board, bearing in mind Financial Regulation XV – Resolutions involving Expenditures and Rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure of the Health Assembly, a report on the administrative and financial implications of any resolution proposed for adoption by the Executive Board or Health Assembly and to ensure that this report is provided prior to consideration of adoption of the resolution being introduced;
- (2) to continue to pursue rigorous financial discipline through transparency of resource allocations to headquarters, global activities, regions and countries, and elimination of any overlapping functions within the Organization;
- (3) to implement the planned efficiency projects described in the Programme budget 2006-2007, and to set clear and measurable efficiency targets for this, and future, budgets;
- (4) to ensure early implementation of the outstanding audit recommendations, and to propose to the Executive Board at its 117th session a tracking programme for external and internal audit recommendations which include timeframes for implementation;
- (5) to carry through his strong commitment to further strengthen the performance of the Organization, in particular at the regional and country levels;
- (6) to provide guidance regarding WHO's relative priorities when requesting voluntary contributions;
- (7) to report to the Sixtieth World Health Assembly, through the Executive Board, on progress made in the implementation of this resolution.

Agenda item 13.9

Strengthening pandemic-influenza preparedness and response

The Fifty-eighth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on influenza pandemic preparedness and response;

Recalling resolutions WHA22.47, Diseases under surveillance: louse-borne typhus, louse-borne relapsing fever, viral influenza, paralytic poliomyelitis; WHA48.13, Communicable diseases prevention and control: new, emerging, and re-emerging infectious diseases; WHA56.19, Prevention and control of influenza pandemics and annual epidemics; and WHA56.28, Revision of the International Health Regulations; and the global agenda for influenza surveillance and control;

Acknowledging with growing concern that the evolving, unprecedented outbreak of H5N1 avian influenza in Asia represents a serious threat to human health;

Stressing the need for all countries, especially those affected by highly pathogenic avian influenza, to collaborate with WHO and the international community in an open and transparent manner in order to lessen the risk that the H5N1 influenza virus causes a pandemic among humans;

Mindful of the need to address the limited progress being made in development of influenza vaccines and transit to the production stage;

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening surveillance of human and zoonotic influenzas in all countries in order to provide an early warning of, and a timely response to, an influenza pandemic;

Noting the gaps in knowledge and the need for additional research on various aspects of the spread of influenza and for influenza preparedness and response;

Noting the importance of strengthening linkages and cooperation with the mass media;

Acknowledging that communication with the public must be improved in order to increase awareness of the seriousness of the threat that an influenza pandemic represents, and of the steps in basic hygiene that citizens can and should take in order to lessen their risk of contracting and transmitting influenza;

Emphasizing the need to strengthen collaboration on human and zoonotic influenzas with organizations responsible for animal and human health at local, national and international levels;

Aware of the need to expand the availability of influenza vaccine so that protection in a pandemic can be extended to populations in more countries, with particular attention to requirements in developing countries;

Recognizing the need to prepare for international cooperation during the initial stages of a pandemic, particularly in the event of inadequate stockpiles of vaccine and antiviral medications;

Recognizing further that influenza antiviral medications will be an important component of a containment strategy, but that additional studies are required to establish their appropriate use in containment;

Recognizing also that a global stockpile of these agents is lacking and few countries have established national stockpiles,

1. URGES Member States:

- (1) to develop and implement national plans for pandemic-influenza preparedness and response that focus on limiting health impact and economic and social disruption;
- (2) to develop and strengthen national surveillance and laboratory capacity for human and zoonotic influenzas;
- (3) to achieve the target set by resolution WHA56.19, Prevention and control of influenza pandemics and annual epidemics, to increase vaccination coverage of all people at high risk, which will lead to availability of greater global vaccine-production capacity during an influenza pandemic;
- (4) seriously to consider developing domestic influenza-vaccine production capacity, based on annual vaccine needs, or to work with neighbouring States in establishing regional vaccine-production strategies;
- (5) to ensure prompt and transparent reporting of outbreaks of human and zoonotic influenzas to the regional offices of WHO as well as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Office International des Epizooties*, and neighbouring countries, particularly when novel influenza strains are involved, and to facilitate the rapid sharing of clinical specimens and viruses through the WHO Global Influenza Surveillance Network;
- (6) to communicate clearly to health-care workers and the general public the potential threat of an influenza pandemic and to make effective use of media and other appropriate communication channels to educate the public about effective hygienic practices and other public health interventions that may protect them from influenza-virus infection;
- (7) to strengthen linkages and cooperation among national health, agriculture and other pertinent authorities in order to prepare for, including by mobilizing resources, and respond jointly to, outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza;
- (8) to support an international research agenda to reduce the spread and impact of pandemic influenza viruses, to develop more effective vaccines and antiviral medications, and to advance, among various population groups, especially people with immunodeficiencies such as HIV-infected and AIDS patients, vaccination policies and strategies, in close consultation with the communities concerned;
- (9) to contribute, as feasible, their expertise and resources to strengthen WHO programmes, bilateral country activities and other international efforts to prepare for pandemic influenza;

(10) to take all necessary measures, during a global pandemic, to provide timely and adequate supplies of vaccines and antiviral drugs, using to the full the flexibilities contained in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights;

2. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to continue to strengthen global influenza surveillance, including the WHO Global Influenza Surveillance Network, as a crucial component of preparedness for seasonal epidemics and pandemics of influenza;

(2) to seek solutions with other international and national partners, including the private sector, to reduce the present global shortage of influenza vaccines and antiviral medications for both epidemics and pandemics, including vaccination strategies that economize on the use of antigens, and development and licensing of antigen-sparing vaccine formulations;

(3) to provide Member States with technical support and training in order to develop health-promotion strategies in anticipation of, and during, influenza pandemics;

(4) to draw up and coordinate, in collaboration with public and private partners, an international research agenda on pandemic influenza;

(5) to assess the feasibility of using antiviral-medication stockpiles to contain an initial outbreak of influenza and to slow or prevent its international spread, and, as appropriate, to develop an operational framework for their deployment;

(6) to evaluate the potential benefit of personal protection measures, including the wearing of surgical masks, to limit transmission in different settings, especially health-care settings;

(7) to continue to develop WHO's plans and capacity to respond to an influenza pandemic and to be able to provide technical assistance, capacity building and technology transfer related to H5N1 influenza vaccines and diagnostics to developing countries, as well as to ensure clear communications with Member States;

(8) to establish joint initiatives for closer collaboration with national and international partners, including FAO and the *Office International des Epizooties*, in the early detection, reporting and investigation of influenza outbreaks of pandemic potential, and in coordinating research on the human-animal interface;

(9) to report to the Fifty-ninth World Health Assembly, through the Executive Board, on progress made in implementing this resolution.

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