Collaboration within the United Nations system and with other intergovernmental organizations

International Agency for Research on Cancer: amendments to Statute

Report by the Director-General

1. At its Sixty-second Session (Lyon, France, 11–12 May 2020), the Governing Council of the International Agency for Research on Cancer deferred to its next session consideration of an amendment to Article XIII of the Statute of the Agency, relating to the withdrawal from participation in the Agency. In the event that the Agency’s Governing Council adopts the amendment before the conclusion of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly, the amendment is submitted for acceptance by the Health Assembly.

2. At its Sixty-first Session (Lyon, France, 16–17 May 2019) the Governing Council had considered that, in order to preserve the operations of the Agency, a Participating State had to provide a time frame for its withdrawal from the Agency that respected the budget already approved for the Agency at the time of notification of the intention to withdraw. It therefore established a Working Group of the Governing Council to review different options and recommend an amendment to the Agency’s Statute on that basis.

3. Under the provisions of Article X of the Statute of the International Agency for Research on Cancer, amendments shall come into force when adopted by the Governing Council by a two-thirds majority of its members who are representatives of Participating States and accepted by the World Health Assembly.

ACTION BY THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

4. The Health Assembly is invited to consider the following draft resolution, noting that such consideration is contingent upon the adoption of the amendment to the Statute by the Governing Council of the International Agency for Research on Cancer:

The Seventy-third World Health Assembly,

Considering the amendment to Article XIII of the Statute of the International Agency for Research on Cancer adopted by the Governing Council at its Sixty-second Session;

Considering also the provisions of Article X of the Statute of the Agency;
ACCEPTS the following amendment to the Statute of the Agency, which shall enter into force forthwith:

*Article XIII – Withdrawal from participation*

A Participating State may withdraw from participation in the operation of the Agency by notifying the Director-General of the World Health Organization of its intention to withdraw. Such a notification shall take effect eighteen months after its receipt by the Director-General of the World Health Organization.