Proposed modalities for the Seventy-third World Health Assembly (resumed)

In view of circumstances arising from the pandemic of coronavirus (COVID-19), the following draft modalities are proposed, exceptionally, for the Seventy-third World Health Assembly (resumed). They should not be considered as setting a precedent for future Health Assemblies.

Working hours

10:00 to 13:00 and 14:00 to 17:00. There shall be no evening sessions.

Verbal statements

Participants will be invited to deliver up to 11 verbal statements in total, under the following agenda items:

COMMITTEE A

Pillar 1

(1) Item 11, Review of and update on matters considered by the Executive Board

(2) Item 12, WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel

Pillar 2

(3) Items 13.1, Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Programme; 13.2, WHO’s work in health emergencies; and 14, International Health Regulations (2005)

(4) Items 13.3, Influenza preparedness; 13.4, Cholera prevention and control; and 13.5, Poliomyelitis

Pillar 3

(5) Item 15, Review and update on matters considered by the Executive Board

1 For each verbal statement, participants may wish to cover all sub-items or focus only on a few of the sub-items. However, participants will be encouraged to focus on reports where action is requested of the Health Assembly, rather than, for example, reports where resolutions and decisions were already agreed intersessionally through the written silence procedure (C.L.31.2020, 3 August 2020).
COMMITTEE B

(6) Item 17, Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan

Pillar 4

(7) Item 18, Review of and update on matters considered by the Executive Board

(8) Item 19, Appointment of representatives to the WHO Staff Pension Committee

(9) Item 20, Financial matters

(10) Item 21, Audit and oversight matters

(11) Item 22, Collaboration within the United Nations system and with other intergovernmental organizations

Proposed time-limits

- Individual statements by Member States and Associate Members: 3 minutes.

- Statements by Observers, invited representatives of invited United Nations and other participating intergovernmental organizations: 2 minutes.

- Statements by non-State actors in official relations with the Organization: 1 minute.

- Regional and group statements: 4 minutes.

Written statements

It is proposed that:

- Member States and Associate Members should be invited to submit written statements for posting on the website in the language of submission, in accordance with the guidelines for written statements contained in decision EB146(17);

- Observers, invited representatives of the United Nations and of other participating and intergovernmental organizations should also be invited to submit written statements in accordance with those guidelines. The usual practice for non-State actors’ statements applies as per the practical information for representatives of non-State actors in official relations with WHO;

- in accordance with the guidelines, statements may be provided in any of the six WHO official languages and should be limited to 500 words for individual statements and 800 words for group statements.

1 With regard to progress reports, participants will be invited to post written statements.