

First report of Committee B

(Draft)

Committee B held its first and second meetings on 26 May 2021, chaired by Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete (Fiji) and Dr Søren Brostrøm (Denmark), respectively.

In accordance with Rule 35 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, the Committee elected Dr Søren Brostrøm (Denmark) and Ms Kazi Zebunnessa Begum (Bangladesh) as Vice-Chairs and Lt. Col. Jeffrey Bostic (Barbados) as Rapporteur. In addition, and in accordance with the Rule 36 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, the Committee elected Mr Mustafizur Rahman (Bangladesh) as Vice-Chair ad interim.

It was decided to recommend to the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly the adoption of the attached decision relating to the following agenda item:

25. Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan

One decision

Agenda item 25

Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan

The Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly, taking note of the report by the Director-General requested in decision WHA73(32) (2020),¹ decided to request the Director-General:

- (1) to report on progress in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report by the Director-General, based on field monitoring, to the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly;
- (2) to support the Palestinian health sector, using a health system strengthening approach, including through capacity-building programmes by improving basic infrastructures, human and technical resources and the provision of health facilities, and of ensuring the accessibility, affordability and quality of health-care services required to address and deal with structural problems emanating from the prolonged occupation and the development of strategic plans for investments in specific treatment and diagnostic capacities locally;
- (3) to ensure sustainable procurement of WHO prequalified vaccines and medicine and medical equipment to the occupied Palestinian territory in compliance with the international humanitarian law and the WHO norms and standards;
- (4) to ensure non-discriminatory, affordable and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines to the protected occupied population in the occupied Palestinian territory including East Jerusalem and in the occupied Syrian Golan in compliance with the International Law;
- (5) to ensure the respect and protection of wounded population and injuries, health and humanitarian aid workers, the healthcare systems, all medical and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities in compliance with The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols;
- (6) to assess, in full cooperation with UNICEF and other relevant United Nations agencies and the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean and the WHO country office in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem, the extent and nature of psychiatric morbidity, and other forms of mental health problems, resulting from protracted aerial and other forms of bombing among the population, particularly children and adolescents, of the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem;
- (7) to continue strengthening partnership with other United Nations agencies and partners in the occupied Palestinian territory including east Jerusalem and in the occupied Syrian Golan to enhance humanitarian health response capacities by delivering aid and protection in an inclusive and sustained manner during coronavirus disease COVID-19 and after the pandemic crisis;

¹ Document A74/22.

(8) to provide health-related technical assistance to the Syrian population in the occupied Syrian Golan;

(9) to continue providing the necessary technical assistance in order to meet the health needs of the Palestinian people, including prisoners and detainees, in cooperation with the efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross, as well as the health needs of handicapped and injured people;

(10) to support the development of the health system in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem, by focusing on the development of human resources, in order to localize health services, decreasing referrals, reducing cost, strengthening mental health services provision and maintaining strong primary health care with integrated complete appropriate health services; and

(11) to ensure the allocation of human and financial resources in order to achieve these objectives.

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