



REGIONAL COMMITTEE

SEA/RC40/14

Fortieth Session

3 July 1987

Provisional Agenda item 11

REVIEW OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S INTRODUCTION TO THE
PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR 1988-1989 AND THE COMMENTS OF THE
WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY THEREON

REGIONAL COMMITTEE DOCUMENT

Having reviewed the Director-General's Introduction to the Proposed Programme Budget for the financial period 1988-1989, and in particular his evaluation of WHO's programme budget during the period of the Seventh General Programme of Work and his reflections for 1988-1989 and beyond, as well as the Executive Board's comments thereon, the Fortieth World Health Assembly, in May 1987, requested the regional committees vide its resolution WHA 40.15, to review these documents and the comments of the Health Assembly thereon with a view to taking necessary action to secure the best possible use of WHO's limited resources, in keeping with the letter and spirit of all relevant resolutions of the Health Assembly and the Executive Board. The Health Assembly further requested the regional committees to report on the outcome of their deliberations to the Executive Board at its eighty-first session in January 1988.

In pursuance of the above resolution, submitted for review and consideration of the regional committees, the Director-General prepared a document on Management of WHO's Resources, (EB81/PC/WP/2) which is attached. It contains 15 sections, including two on the comments of the Executive Board and of the Fortieth World Health Assembly respectively. In this document, the Director-General's evaluation of WHO's programme budget during the period of the Seventh General Programme of Work and his reflections for 1988-1989 and beyond are analysed at various places. Particular attention of the Regional Committee is invited, in this connection, to the two most important sections of the document. These are the issues for review (pages 9 to 16) and the options for action (pages 19 to 24).

<u>Issues and options</u>	<u>Ref. paragraphs</u>
1. <u>WHO's system of values, policy and strategy for HFA</u>	6, 9, 21, 23, 53
If the Member Countries agree to reiterate their support for WHO's system of values as well as the policy and strategy for HFA, the Regional Committee may wish to discuss the best practical way of carrying out the policies and strategies in the Region.	
2. <u>Responsibilities of Member States and the Regional Committee as agreed upon in resolutions WHA33.17 and WHA 34.24</u>	8, 12, 14, 33, 54
The Regional Committee may wish to discuss practical ways on how best to implement resolutions WHA 33.17 and WHA 34.24 if it decides to reiterate its support for them.	

<u>Issues and options</u>	<u>Ref. paragraphs</u>
3. <u>Monitoring and evaluation of national strategies for Health for All</u>	7, 55
<p>If Member Countries feel that the monitoring and evaluation of national strategies are a useful tool, the Regional Committee may wish to discuss how countries may take practical measures to use this tool.</p>	
4. <u>Decentralization arrangements</u>	13, 16, 56
<p>The Regional Committee may wish to re-examine the main features of the managerial arrangements for ensuring effective decentralization to Member States of operational responsibility for technical cooperation activities, presented in document DGO 83.1 and if it still agrees with them, to ensure their application in Member States, and in the Secretariat at country and Regional Office levels.</p>	
5. <u>Regional Programme Budget Policy</u>	18, 19, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 44, 51, 57, 58
<p>The Regional Committee may wish to reconsider how best to use the regional programme budget policy systematically in deciding on the use of WHO's resources in the countries and in implementing the regional programme budget policy. In pursuance of the regional programme budget policy, the Regional Committee may, to begin with, wish:</p>	
<p>(a) to request the Regional Director not to accede to requests for <u>fellowships</u> from countries that do not report periodically and comprehensively on the use made of fellows who have returned or those that are not using fellows properly on their return;</p>	
<p>(b) to consider what types of <u>supplies and equipment</u> using WHO resources may be ordered and what types should not be ordered, and to request the Regional Director to include in an appendix to his annual report a complete list of supplies and equipment purchased under the regular budget.</p>	
6. <u>Review of WHO's action in individual Member States</u>	20, 34, 59
<p>The Regional Committee may consider, as requested in resolution WHA 33.17, reviewing WHO's action in individual Member States.</p>	

Issues and options

Ref. paragraphs

7. Country planning figures

15, 44, 49, 60

The Regional Committee's opinion is sought on whether the system of issuing tentative country planning figures may be abandoned and budget allocated to countries in the light of compliance of the proposed programme activities with the regional programme budget policy.

The Regional Committee may consider whether increased resources should be devoted to global programmes.

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8. Ensuring timely implementation and disposal of unobligated funds

30, 61

The Regional Committee may wish to review the scheduling of actions to ensure timely implementation. It is suggested that if three-quarters of the allocation to a country has not been obligated for agreed activities by the end of June of the second year of the biennium, the unobligated funds could be used for agreed activities in other countries.

9. Functions of WRs, Regional Offices and HQ

10, 11, 17, 32,
36, 37, 38, 40,
46, 62

The Regional Committee may review the redefined functions of WRs, the regional offices and headquarters, in compliance with resolution WHA 33.17.

10. Structure of the Regional Office

39, 41, 63, 64

The Regional Committee may wish to review the structure of the Regional Office including staffing. To have the right kind of staff to support the countries, the Regional Committee may also consider the allocation of resources for training of staff.

11. Present system of staffing of WHO Secretariat

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The Regional Committee may wish to review the present system of staffing of the WHO Secretariat. The views of the Regional Committee are requested on the advisability of introducing a centralized staffing system with the central bureau recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible but assigning them to posts in the light of needs, and to try this out with regard to WRs.