

Real estate

Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly

1. The eighteenth meeting of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee was held in Geneva on 16 and 17 May 2013 under the chairmanship of Dr Jamal Thabet Nasher (Yemen).¹ The Committee adopted its agenda.²
2. The Secretariat introduced the report,³ noting that it was an update of the strategic direction considered by the Executive Board at its 132nd session⁴ and that full and detailed plans would be provided to the next meeting of the Executive Board.
3. The Committee noted the need for the headquarters refurbishment strategy to achieve long-term operational cost savings and to take into account the WHO reform process as well as the need for optimizing office space.
4. The Committee requested further clarity on the assumptions made within the document relating to the following: the value of land and buildings proposed for eventual sale; the planned cost and the savings available to WHO through implementation of the strategy; and the definition of headquarters' real estate needs.
5. The Committee noted that the detailed planning should take into account the renovation projects currently being planned or implemented in other United Nations offices and their financial implications. It recommended that the renovations should be done in a phased approach.
6. Stressing the importance of addressing the need to have sustainable financing of the Capital Master Plan, the Committee requested that the financing of the Plan be included in the presentation of the programme budget and the financing dialogue.

¹ The list of participants is available in document EBPBAC18/DIV./1.

² Document EBPBAC18/1.

³ Document A66/42.

⁴ Document EB132/33.

7. Recognizing the security, programmatic and operational rationale for the construction of a new country sub-office in Garowe, Puntland, Somalia, the Committee noted WHO's participation in a wider United Nations system decision to relocate international staff to Somalia.

8. The Committee noted the updated refurbishment strategy and the Secretariat's intention to further develop it before presenting a detailed plan for approval by the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly in May 2014. Furthermore, the Committee recommended approval of the construction of the new WHO sub-office in Garowe, Puntland Somalia.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

9. The Committee, on behalf of the Executive Board, recommended that the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly adopt the following draft resolution:

The Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on real estate;¹

Having noted the report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly,²

APPROVES the construction of the new WHO sub-office in Garowe, Puntland Somalia.

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¹ Document A66/42.

² Document A66/62.