



FORTY-FOURTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

QUARANTE-QUATRIEME ASSEMBLEE MONDIALE DE LA SANTE

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE ELEVENTH PLENARY MEETING

Monday, 13 May 1991, at 11h30
Palais des Nations, Geneva

President: Dr P. NYMADAWA (Mongolia)

COMPTE RENDU IN EXTENSO PROVISOIRE DE LA ONZIEME SEANCE PLENIERE

Lundi, 13 mai 1991, 11h30
Palais des Nations, Genève

Président : Dr P. NYMADAWA (Mongolie)

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1. SECOND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS
DEUXIEME RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION DE VERIFICATION DES POUVOIRS

The PRESIDENT:

The Assembly is called to order.

We shall now consider the second report of the Committee on Credentials, and I shall ask the Rapporteur, Dr Wirajuda, to read the report, as contained in document A44/50.

Dr WIRAJUDA (Indonesia), Rapporteur of the Committee on Credentials:

Second report of the Committee on Credentials:

1. The Committee on Credentials met on 10 May 1991, under the chairmanship of Dr G.A. Williams (Nigeria). Mr M. Courte (Luxembourg) was Vice-Chairman and Mr N.H. Wirajuda (Indonesia) was Rapporteur. Delegates of the following Members were present: Côte d'Ivoire, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Grenada, Indonesia, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, United Republic of Tanzania.
2. The Committee examined the formal credentials of the delegates of Burundi, Ethiopia, Ireland, Lesotho, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, who had been seated provisionally in the Health Assembly pending the arrival of their formal credentials. All the credentials were found to be in conformity with the Rules of Procedure, and the Committee therefore proposes that the Health Assembly recognize their validity.
3. The Committee also examined a notification from Guyana, received since its first meeting, which while indicating the name of the delegate concerned, could not be considered as constituting formal credentials in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of Procedure. The Committee recommends to the Health Assembly that the delegation of Guyana be provisionally seated with all rights in the Health Assembly pending the arrival of its formal credentials.
4. The Committee also examined the credentials submitted by Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, whose requests for membership had been approved by the Health Assembly. These credentials were found to be in conformity with the Rules of Procedure, and the Committee proposes that the Health Assembly recognize their validity, thus enabling the delegations concerned to participate with full rights in the Health Assembly as soon as membership of the two States becomes effective upon deposit of their instruments of acceptance of the Constitution with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
5. Lastly, the Committee examined the credentials submitted for Tokelau, for which application for associate membership had been approved by the Health Assembly. These credentials were found to be in conformity with the Rules of Procedure and the Committee proposes that the Health Assembly recognize their validity.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, Dr Wirajuda. Are there any objections? In the absence of any comments the second report of the Committee on Credentials is approved.

2. FIRST REPORT OF COMMITTEE A
PREMIER RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION A

The PRESIDENT:

We shall now consider the first report of Committee A, as contained in document A44/49; please disregard the word "Draft" as this report was adopted by the Committee without amendment. This report contains six resolutions which I shall invite the Assembly to consider one by one. If there is no objection I shall read out their titles to you.

The first is "Research and development in the field of children's vaccines". In the absence of any objections, the resolution is adopted.

The second is "Eradication of dracunculiasis". In the absence of any objections, the resolution is adopted.

The third is "Cholera". In the absence of any objections, the resolution is adopted.

The fourth is "Control of acute respiratory infections". In the absence of any objections, the resolution is adopted.

The fifth is "Tuberculosis control programme".

I give the floor to the delegate of Turkey.

Professor COSKUN (Turkey):

Thank you, Mr Chairman. We want to clarify a point on the amendment we had proposed in Committee A with regard to the resolution on "Tuberculosis control programme" (resolution EB87.R7). Our delegation had suggested the insertion of the words: "biological and psychosocial" before "constraints" in operative paragraph 4(2)(c). The rationale behind this suggestion was to draw attention merely to the psychosocial aspects of the constraints, which we believed were not mentioned sufficiently. During our informal discussions with some delegates, however, it was understood that this insertion at this special place had raised some concern that it might weaken the economic aspects of the constraints, which obviously was not our intention. In order to eliminate this point of concern, we wish to propose a slight change, hoping that it will better clarify the subject. This is, the insertion of "including biological and psychosocial aspects" after the word "constraints", instead of before, as we had previously proposed. Thank you, Mr Chairman.

The PRESIDENT:

I give the floor to the delegate of Barbados.

Mr TAITT (Barbados):

I regret to have to take the floor, but the amendment as I hear it makes no sense in English. I do not understand what it would mean. Could we have some clarification that would make it useful in the English language? I would not understand what are constraints including biological and psychosocial aspects, and I do not really understand the meaning of the amendment.

The PRESIDENT:

Would the delegate of Turkey please read paragraph 4(2)(c) with his proposed amendment?

Professor COSKUN (Turkey):

In accordance with your request, I read amended paragraph 4(2)(c): "promoting global interest in research on all aspects of tuberculosis control and elimination and undertaking sharply focused research activities that are likely to produce new knowledge and technology to overcome critical constraints, including biological and psychosocial aspects, for the control and elimination of this disease".

The PRESIDENT:

Is the delegate of Barbados now in favour of this amendment, or is there still some confusion?

Mr TAITT (Barbados):

If all the rest of the delegations understand what it means I shall not stand in their way. I just don't understand.

The PRESIDENT:

Are there any other comments or observations? Can we accept the amendments of the delegate of Turkey? In the absence of any objection the resolution, as amended, is adopted.

The sixth resolution is on "Leprosy". Are there any comments? I invite the delegate of Indonesia to take the floor.

Dr RAI (Indonesia):

Thank you very much, Mr President. I just want some clarification on the terminology "elimination". Is it equal to "eradication"? If it is so, I am afraid most countries will not be able to achieve it.

The PRESIDENT:

There are some differences of meaning between eradication and elimination, and we are aiming at elimination and not eradication at this stage of development. Does this satisfy the delegate of Indonesia?

Dr RAI (Indonesia):

What is the difference between elimination and eradication?

The PRESIDENT:

I shall ask the Secretariat to explain, and I invite Dr Henderson to take the floor.

Dr HENDERSON (Assistant Director-General):

In the draft resolution on page 12 of the English version of the first report of Committee A there is a footnote which says "Elimination of leprosy as a public health problem is defined as the reduction of prevalence to a level below one case per 10 000 population." This was a matter of some debate, both in the Executive Board and in the Secretariat, and has been, I think, quite carefully considered, and we hope that the delegate of Indonesia will find that this is an acceptable formulation. It does not mean that we are after the eradication of leprosy, which would indicate that we would expect to eliminate the organism entirely from the face of the earth. Elimination is talking about, in this specific case, reduction below a defined level of prevalence.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, Dr Henderson Are there any other comments? In the absence of any other comments, the resolution is adopted.

The Assembly has therefore approved the first report of Committee A.

3. FIRST REPORT OF COMMITTEE B PREMIER RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION B

The PRESIDENT:

We shall now consider the first report of Committee B as contained in document A44/51. Please disregard the word "Draft", as this report was adopted by the Committee without amendments. The report contains 14 resolutions, which I shall invite the Assembly to adopt one after the other.

The first resolution is entitled "Interim financial report on the accounts of WHO for 1990 and comments thereon of the Committee of the Executive Board to Consider Certain Financial Matters prior to the Health Assembly" (Article 18(f); Financial Regulations 11.3 and 12.9). Is there any objection? As there is none, the resolution is adopted.

The second resolution is entitled "Status of collection of assessed contributions and status of advances to the Working Capital Fund". Is there any objection? As there is none, the resolution is adopted.

The third resolution is entitled "Members in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent which would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution". Are there any comments on this resolution?

The delegate of Mexico has the floor.

El Sr. ARRIAZOLA (México):

Señor Presidente: Deseamos solicitar, en nombre de las delegaciones latinoamericanas, que se proceda a una votación nominal en relación al punto sobre Miembros con atrasos de contribuciones de importancia bastante para que esté justificado aplicar el Artículo 7 de la Constitución.

M. VIGNES (Conseiller juridique) :

Monsieur le Président, vous venez d'entendre une intervention du délégué du Mexique qui demande que l'on procède à un vote par appel nominal sur la résolution, ce qui est son droit conformément à l'article 74 du Règlement intérieur de l'Assemblée. Merci, Monsieur le Président.

The PRESIDENT:

Please, the delegate of the United States of America.

Mr BOYER (United States of America):

Mr President, since we are apparently going to have a vote on this resolution, I would simply like to remind the delegates that this resolution received a long and full debate in Committee B. In order for it to be approved, it requires a two-thirds majority vote in favour. In Committee B, it had a two-thirds majority, and on behalf of those who voted in that way in Committee B, I would like to encourage members of the plenary to vote "yes" on this resolution. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, delegate of the United States of America. Please the delegate of Tonga.

Dr TAPA (Tonga):

Mr President, Mr Director-General, distinguished delegates. In the present difficult global situation, it is true to say that no single Member State of the Organization is without economic and financial problems. My delegation is not unsympathetic to the difficulties faced by a number of countries, but the Constitution of the World Health Organization is like the rules of a club, and as such has to be adhered to by Member States in order to be fair to all Members. The draft resolution now before the Health Assembly removes the possibility of any inequities from being applied to any Member State, and gives equitable and fair treatment to all Member States. My delegation fully supports the draft resolution and will vote in favour of it.

In conclusion, Mr President, I urge the Assembly to adopt the draft resolution. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, delegate of Tonga. Please, the delegate of Canada.

Dr LARIVIERE (Canada):

Mr President, we are going later during this Assembly to consider the method of work of the Health Assembly. There is a request there that the Assembly, whenever a roll-call vote is called for - and we fully recognize that this is the right of Member States - that the Assembly take a stand on the request by simple majority vote, to the effect that do we want a roll-call vote or do we want a simple vote? So I put the request to the Assembly that we take a simple show of hands vote on the need to have a roll-call vote. Thank you.

M. VIGNES (Conseiller juridique) :

Je comprends le souci de gain de temps du délégué du Canada. Il est vrai que l'étude de cette question est à l'ordre du jour de la Commission B, mais pour l'instant, il faut appliquer les règles du jeu telles qu'elles existent. L'article 74 est formel sur ce point. L'on doit procéder au vote par appel nominal si un délégué le demande. Merci, Monsieur le Président.

The PRESIDENT:

Please, the delegate of Mexico.

El Sr. ARRIAZOLA (México):

Señor Presidente: Agradezco al Asesor Jurídico por habernos explicado la situación que se presenta. Únicamente quería aclarar para las delegaciones que no lo escucharon que el voto no lo estoy pidiendo únicamente en nombre de la delegación de México, que hubiera sido suficiente, sino en nombre de las delegaciones latinoamericanas.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, the delegate of Mexico. Now I give the floor to the delegate of Zaire.

Le Dr DUALE (Zaire) :

Merci, Monsieur le Président. Lors de la discussion sur la résolution en commission, le délégué du Zaire était intervenu pour dire que ce pays avait la volonté de payer sa contribution et que celle-ci allait être versée avant la fin de la présente Assemblée, ce qui a été fait aujourd'hui. Nous avons dit aussi que cette résolution, au lieu d'encourager les Membres à payer leurs contributions, risquait de les décourager. Merci, Monsieur le Président.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, the delegate of Zaire. Now I give the floor to the delegate of the United States of America.

Mr BOYER (United States of America):

Mr President, the Legal Counsel is correct that if any single member of the Assembly requests a roll-call vote, there must be a roll-call vote. However, I would like to point out that on past occasions when this has occurred, it has taken about 30 minutes to accomplish. I don't think we need to waste 30 minutes taking a roll-call vote on this question, the question is quite open, and I would ask through you, Mr President, whether the Mexican delegation would consider withdrawing the request for a roll-call vote. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, the delegate of United States of America. Maybe the Mexican delegate has some comments on this intervention.

El Sr. ARRIAZOLA (México):

Señor Presidente: Comprendemos la preocupación de algunas delegaciones por el tiempo que lleva la votación nominal. Sin embargo, ésta no es, como ya lo he dicho anteriormente, una posición de la delegación de México exclusivamente: México es el portavoz del grupo latinoamericano. Insistimos en que se lleve a cabo una votación nominal sobre este tema, debido a que es importantísimo para estas delegaciones.

M. VIGNES (Conseiller juridique) :

Merci, Monsieur le Président. Je crois donc que les clarifications nécessaires ont été apportées; il faut maintenant procéder à un vote par appel nominal sur la résolution concernant les Membres redevables d'arriérés de contributions qui est contenue dans le rapport. Pour ce faire, l'on va procéder à un appel nominal dans l'ordre alphabétique anglais en tirant au sort ... Y a-t-il une motion d'ordre ?

Mr TAITT (Barbados):

Mr President, I just wish to know if, in the light of the statement made concerning Zaire, Zaire would still form part of paragraph six of the resolution, since if Zaire has paid, we would be technically incorrect to include that country. Could the Secretariat confirm that Zaire has paid, and have Zaire excluded from this resolution? I should think that is a matter for the Legal Counsel, Sir.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, the delegate of Barbados. Please, Mr Aitken.

Mr AITKEN (Assistant Director-General):

Zaire has paid sufficient to remove it from this list today. The Assembly could therefore, if it wished, make an amendment in the third preambular paragraph, stating that in addition to Grenada and Guinea-Bissau, the arrears of contributions of Zaire had been reduced. Zaire could also be taken from paragraph 7(1) of the decision out of the list of 14 countries which are there, reducing the number to 13. I think that would be a sensible step to take at this time.

M. VIGNES (Conseiller juridique) :

Je confirme ce qui vient d'être dit par M. Aitken. Deux amendements sont apportés à la résolution qui va être mise aux voix : au troisième alinéa du préambule, le nom du Zaïre doit être ajouté et au paragraphe 7.1) du dispositif, le nom du Zaïre disparaît de la liste des pays qui y sont énumérés. Cela étant dit, la résolution, avec les amendements qui viennent d'être indiqués, est soumise à un vote par appel nominal. Ce vote va avoir lieu dans l'ordre alphabétique anglais et le premier pays qui va être appelé à voter sera celui dont le nom commence par la lettre qui va être tirée au sort par le Président. Il faudra que chaque pays, à l'appel de son nom, indique s'il vote "oui" ou "non" ou s'il s'abstient. Monsieur le Président, veuillez tirer une lettre pour indiquer le premier pays appelé à voter.

The PRESIDENT:

The letter "T" has been selected. Delegates, when the name of their country is called, should reply by saying yes, no, or abstention, according to the way they wish to vote.

A vote was taken by roll-call, the names of the Member States being called in the English alphabetical order, starting with Thailand, the letter "T" having been determined by lot:

The result of the vote was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Burundi, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Iraq, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen.

Abstaining: Angola, Bolivia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechoslovakia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kenya, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Oman, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Zaire.

Absent: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Bhutan, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Monaco, Nepal, Pakistan, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Il est procédé à un vote par appel nominal, les noms des Etats Membres étant appelés dans l'ordre alphabétique anglais. Le premier appelé est la Thaïlande, la lettre "T" ayant été choisie par tirage au sort.

Le résultat du vote est le suivant :

Pour : Afghanistan, Albanie, Allemagne, Australie, Autriche, Bahreïn, Bangladesh, Barbade, Belgique, Bénin, Botswana, Brunéi Darussalam, Bulgarie, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Canada, Chine, Chypre, Danemark, Emirats arabes unis, Espagne, Etats-Unis d'Amérique, Finlande, France, Gabon, Gambie, Grèce, Iles Salomon, Indonésie, Irlande, Islande, Israël, Italie, Jamaïque, Japon, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malaisie, Malawi, Maldives, Malte, Maurice, Mongolie, Namibie, Nigéria, Norvège, Nouvelle-Zélande, Papouasie-Nouvelle-Guinée, Pays-Bas, Philippines, Pologne, Portugal, Qatar, République de Corée, République-Unie de Tanzanie, Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord, Saint-Marin, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapour, Suède, Suisse, Swaziland, Thaïlande, Tonga, Trinité-et-Tobago, Turquie, Uruguay, Yougoslavie, Zambie.

Contre : Algérie, Argentine, Brésil, Burundi, Chili, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Equateur, Haïti, Honduras, Iraq, Jamahiriya arabe libyenne, Jordanie, Maroc, Mexique, Nicaragua, Panama, Pérou, République populaire démocratique de Corée, Somalie, Soudan, Tunisie, Yémen.

Abstentions : Angola, Arabie saoudite, Bolivie, Cap-Vert, Colombie, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinée, Guinée-Bissau, Hongrie, Inde, Iran (République islamique d'), Kenya, Kiribati, Madagascar, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Oman, République arabe syrienne, République centrafricaine, République démocratique populaire lao, Roumanie, Rwanda, Sénégal, Sri Lanka, Tchécoslovaquie, Togo, Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques, Venezuela, Zaire.

Absents : Antigua-et-Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Bhoutan, Comores, Congo, Djibouti, Egypte, Ethiopie, Fidji, Grenade, Guatemala, Guyana, Koweït, Liban, Libéria, Mali, Mauritanie, Monaco, Népal, Pakistan, Paraguay, République dominicaine, Saint-Kitts-et-Nevis, Saint-Vincent-et-Grenadines, Sao Tomé-et-Principe, Tchad, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

The PRESIDENT:

I shall now announce the results of the voting. Members present and voting, 94; in favour, 70; against, 24; abstentions, 31. The majority required was 63; therefore, the resolution is adopted.

The delegate of Iraq has the floor.

Dr MARKUS (Iraq):

الدكتور شوقي مرقص (العراق)

شكرا سيدي الرئيس، لن آخذ من الجلسة وقتا كثيرا ولكن يجب أن أوضح موقف بلادي، والكل يعرف بأن العراق منذ دخوله في منظمة الصحة العالمية لم يتوان عن دفع مستحقاته السنوية بشكل منتظم وهذا ما هو معروف لدى جميع

العاملين في المنظمة والمكتب الاقليمي ولكن ظروف بلادي معروفة، حيث ان المبالغ الموجودة في الخارج مجمدة والعالم كله يعرف ذلك، وكذلك لا يسمح لنا بتصدير النفط ولو ببرميل واحد وكذلك هناك حصار حتى على المعاملات المصرفية بين العراق والخارج مما أدى الى عدم الوفاء بالتزامات العراق تجاه المنظمة. ونحن نحترم وبشكل دقيق، دستور المنظمة فاذا كنا صوتنا ضد هذه الفقرة فلأن العراق لديه ظرف خاص ونتمنى من المنظمة والجمعية أن تأخذ بعين الاعتبار هذا الموضوع وهو حالة خاصة بالعراق. واننا سنتمكن من دفع هذا المبلغ حالما يسمح لنا بالتصرف بمبالغنا الموجودة في الخارج أو حالما يسمح لنا بتصدير النفط أو شيء من هذا القبيل وشكراً.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, delegate of Iraq. The statements made in relation to this resolution will be duly recorded in the verbatim record.

The fifth resolution is entitled "Report on casual income", concerning the adverse effects of currency fluctuations on the programme budget for the financial period 1992-1993. Are there any comments? In the absence of any objections, the resolution is adopted.

The sixth resolution concerns salaries of ungraded posts and of the Director-General. Is there any objection? As there is none, the resolution is adopted.

The seventh resolution is entitled "Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules". Is there any objection? I see none; the resolution is therefore adopted.

The eighth resolution is entitled "External Auditor appointment". Is there any objection? As there is none, the resolution is adopted.

The ninth resolution is entitled "Assessment of new Members and Associate Members". Is there any objection? As I see none, the resolution is adopted.

The tenth resolution refers to the assessment of Tokelau. Is there any objection? As there is none, the resolution is adopted.

The next resolution refers to the assessment of Marshall Islands. In the absence of any objection, the resolution is adopted.

The twelfth resolution refers to the assessment of the Federated States of Micronesia. In the absence of any objection, the resolution is adopted.

The thirteenth resolution is entitled "Scale of assessments for the financial period 1992-1993". Is there any objection? As I see none, the resolution is adopted.

The last resolution is entitled "Recruitment of international staff in WHO: biennial report". Is there any objection? As I see none, the resolution is adopted and the Assembly has therefore approved the first report of Committee B.

4. SECOND REPORT OF COMMITTEE A DEUXIEME RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION A

The PRESIDENT:

We shall now move to the second report of Committee A, as contained in document A44/53. Again please disregard the word "Draft", as this report was adopted by the Committee without amendments. This report contains two resolutions, which I shall invite the Assembly to adopt in turn. The first resolution is entitled "Health promotion for the development of the least developed countries". Is there any comment? In the absence of any objection, the resolution is adopted.

The second resolution is entitled "Human organ transplantation". Are there any objections to this resolution? As I see none, the resolution is adopted and the Assembly has therefore approved the second report of Committee A.

5. ELECTION OF MEMBERS ENTITLED TO DESIGNATE A PERSON TO SERVE ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTION DE MEMBRES HABILITES A DESIGNER UNE PERSONNE DEVANT FAIRE PARTIE DU CONSEIL EXECUTIF

The PRESIDENT:

We now move to the next item on the agenda: item 12, Election of Members entitled to designate a person to serve on the Executive Board, contained in document A44/45. I

invite your attention to the list of 10 Members drawn up by the General Committee in accordance with Rule 102 of the Rules of Procedure. In the General Committee's opinion, these 10 Members would provide, if elected, a balanced distribution of the Board as a whole. These members are, in the English alphabetical order, Afghanistan, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Denmark, Greece, Maldives, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Tunisia and Uruguay.

Are there any comments or any objections concerning the list of 10 Members as drawn up by the General Committee? In the absence of any objections, may I conclude that, in accordance with Rule 80, of the Rules of Procedure, the Assembly accepts the list of these ten members as proposed by the General Committee? I see no objection and therefore I declare the 10 Members elected.

This election will be duly recorded in the records of the Assembly. The delegate of Japan, you have the floor.

Dr IRIYAMA (Japan):

First I would like to congratulate the newly elected Members entitled to designate a person to serve on the Executive Board and I trust they will provide excellent guidance for WHO. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the urgent need to ratify the amendment to the Constitution regarding increased membership of the Executive Board which has not yet come into force. So far, 70 Member States have ratified the amendment and it requires the ratification of 42 additional Member States. I would remind you that this amendment was adopted to ensure appropriate representation on the Executive Board of the Western Pacific Region. This year we welcome the two new Member States, the Federated States of Micronesia and Marshall Islands that have joined us. Therefore, on this special occasion, I would urge again, all Member States that have not yet done so, to ratify this particular amendment of the Constitution.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, delegate of Japan and I now give the floor to the delegate of the Republic of Korea.

Dr Sung Woo LEE (Republic of Korea):

The delegation of the Republic of Korea joins the previous speaker in congratulating the newly elected Members entitled to designate a person to serve on the Executive Board. On this occasion, Mr President, allow me to extend our warm welcome to the distinguished delegates of Marshall Islands, the Federated Republic of Micronesia and Tokelau. The delegation of the Republic of Korea also cordially invites the Member countries which have not yet ratified the amendment to do so in order to permit application of the amendment of the Constitution regarding increased membership of the Executive Board.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, delegate of the Republic of Korea. Delegate of Australia, you have the floor.

Dr MEAD (Australia):

We would also like to congratulate the newly elected Members entitled to designate a person to serve on the Executive Board and we would like to support the statement made by the delegation of Japan. We too are concerned by the slowness of ratification of the amendment to the Constitution and would appeal to those Member States which have not yet ratified the amendment to do so as soon as possible.

The PRESIDENT:

Thank you, delegate of Australia. The delegate of China, you have the floor.

Prof. Lu Ruzhan (China),

主席先生：

中国代表团对新当选的有权指定一人为执委会委员的会员国表示祝贺，相信他们对本组织的工作做出有益的贡献。与此同时，我们也对为增加西太区的职位的合适人选而修改组织法予以关注。希望会员国对此给予大力的支持。谢谢主席。

The CHAIRMAN:

Thank you, delegate of China. Are there any other interventions? The statements made by delegations in regard to this item will be duly recorded in the verbatim record. The election will be duly recorded in the records of the Assembly. May I take this opportunity to invite Members to pay regard to the provision of Article 24 of the Constitution when appointing a person to serve on the Executive Board.

We have now finished this morning's work. The next plenary will be held on Wednesday, 15 May at 11h30 in this hall. Thank you for your attention; the meeting is adjourned.

The meeting rose at 12h45.
La séance est levée à 12h45.

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