



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

FIFTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
Provisional agenda item 17.1

A56/36
4 March 2003

Assignment of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the South-East Asia Region

Report by the Secretariat

1. The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste became a Member of WHO on 27 September 2002, in accordance with Articles 4 and 79 of WHO's Constitution, when it deposited its instrument of acceptance of the Constitution with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Government has requested that Timor Leste form part of WHO's South-East Asia Region.
2. The Health Assembly is vested by Article 44 of the Constitution with the authority to determine the geographical scope of regions and as such to assign new Members to specific regions. In the case of Timor-Leste, there has not yet been a Health Assembly resolution which defines the geographical scope of WHO's regions in such a way that would have the effect of already determining the placement of Timor-Leste in one region or another.
3. The Health Assembly may therefore decide on the request of Timor-Leste as a first-time assignment.

ACTION BY THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

4. Having regard to the usual practice of the Health Assembly to accede to the requests of individual Member States with respect to regional assignment, the Health Assembly may wish to consider adopting the following resolution:

The Fifty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the request from the Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste for the inclusion of that country in WHO's South-East Asia Region,

RESOLVES that Timor-Leste shall form part of the South-East Asia Region.

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