



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



# 149th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Washington, D.C., USA, 30 September 2011*

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CE149/FR (Eng.)  
16 November 2011  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**FINAL REPORT**

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## FINAL REPORT

### Opening of the Session

1. The 149th Session of the Executive Committee was held at the Headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in Washington, D.C., on 30 September 2011. The session was attended by delegates of the following nine members of the Executive Committee elected by the Directing Council: Brazil, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Grenada, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, United States of America, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Present in an observer capacity were delegates of Canada, Mexico, and Uruguay.

2. Dr. St. Clair Thomas (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, outgoing President of the Executive Committee) opened the session and welcomed the participants, extending a special welcome to the new members elected by the recently concluded 51st Directing Council: Brazil, Chile, and El Salvador.

3. Dr. Mirta Roses Periago, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB) also welcomed the new members, noting that Brazil was serving on the Committee for the first time in 17 years. She thanked the outgoing members—Argentina, Guatemala, and Haiti—for their service to the Organization, and extended gratitude to Dr. St. Clair Thomas for his able leadership of the Committee.

### Procedural Matters

#### *Officers*

4. Pursuant to Rule 15 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee elected the following Member States to serve as officers for the period October 2011 to October 2012 (Decision CE149[D1]):

*President:* Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Dr. Miriam Morales)

*Vice President:* Brazil (Hon. Eduardo Botelho Barbosa)

*Rapporteur:* Grenada (Hon. Ann Peters)

5. The Director served as Secretary *ex officio* and Dr. Jon Kim Andrus (Deputy Director, PASB) served as Technical Secretary.

***Adoption of the Agenda (Document CE149/1, Rev. 1)***

6. Pursuant to Rule 9 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee adopted, without change, the provisional agenda prepared by the Director (Decision CE149[D2]).<sup>1</sup>

**Committee Matters**

***Election of One Member to the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration on the Expiration of the Period of Office of Guatemala on the Executive Committee***

7. The Committee elected El Salvador to serve on the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration on the expiration of the period of office of Guatemala on the Executive Committee. The Committee expressed appreciation to Guatemala for its service (Decision CE149[D3]).

***Process for the Election of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and Nomination of the Regional Director of the World Health Organization for the Americas (Document CE149/2)***

8. Ms. Mercedes Gatica (Office of Legal Counsel, PASB) introduced Document CE149/2, which summarized the procedure and applicable rules for the election of the Director, and highlighted the key dates in the process. The process would begin on 1 March 2012, when the President of the Executive Committee would issue an invitation to all Member States, Participating States, and Associate Members to submit nominations. The deadline for submission of nominations would be 1 May 2012. After that date, the Bureau would compile the documentation received on all candidates and translate it into the Organization's four official languages. That information, together with copies of the rules governing the election and information on the Candidates' Forum, would be circulated to all Member States, Participating States, and Associate Members by the President of the Executive Committee on or before 1 June 2012. The Candidates' Forum would be held during the week of the 150th Session of the Executive Committee in June 2012. The election would be conducted by secret ballot during the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference in September 2012.

9. Complete information about the election process could be found at <http://www.paho.org/electiondirector2012>. Updated information would be posted on that website as it became available.

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<sup>1</sup> An amended agenda was adopted during a virtual meeting held on 16 November 2011 (see annexes A and D).

10. The Director clarified that, although the Candidates' Forum would be held during the week of the Executive Committee's June 2012 session, it would be open to all Member States, Participating States, and Associate Members. Their delegates would be able to participate either in person or online by means of Web conferencing software.

11. The Committee took note of the report.

### **Governing Body Matters**

#### ***Proposed Dates and Topics for the Sixth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration; the 150th Session of the Executive Committee; and the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas***

12. The Director proposed that the Sixth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration (SPBA) should be held from 14 to 16 March 2012; that the 150th Session of the Executive Committee should be held from 18 to 22 June 2012; and that the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, should be held from 17 to 21 September 2012. In response to a question from a delegate, she noted that the United Nations General Assembly would open the week following the week proposed for the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference.

13. The Director also proposed a tentative list of topics for discussion by the Governing Bodies in 2012 (Annex B), noting that some items would be discussed by all three bodies, while others would be examined only by one or two. Those to be examined by all three bodies included the mid-term evaluation of the Health Agenda for the Americas, the draft of the PAHO Strategic Plan for 2013–2017, the proposed regional budget policy, and the Preliminary Program and Budget 2010–2011 end-of-biennium assessment and second interim progress report of the PAHO Strategic Plan for 2008–2012. The Executive Committee and the Pan American Sanitary Conference would review the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health, in the light of the declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Noncommunicable Diseases, held on 19 and 20 September 2011. The Conference would also be hearing a report on mandates for the Organization and for the health sector in general emanating from the Sixth Summit of the Americas, to be held in Cartagena, Colombia, in April 2012. She noted that Canada had proposed that a panel discussion on gender mainstreaming in the Organization should be held in conjunction with the progress report on the plan of action for implementing PAHO's Gender Equality Policy.

14. In the discussion that followed, it was suggested that an item should be added to the agenda concerning the bioethical aspects of the health issues confronting the Region and PAHO's role in assisting governments in dealing with them. In that connection, it was recommended that PAHO should draw on the work of other organizations, especially WHO and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), with respect to bioethics. Clarification was sought regarding the nature of a program policy item entitled "Strategy and Plan of Action on Sustainable Health and Development" and its relationship to other areas of work, in particular urban health and climate change. It was suggested that a report should be presented on the lessons learned from the Region's past experience with technical cooperation among countries (TCC) and on possible innovations that might be introduced in that area in the future. It was also suggested that the Executive Committee should receive an update on the WHO reform process. At the same time, it was suggested, in the interests of rationalizing the agenda of the Pan American Sanitary Conference, that not all of the progress reports to be discussed by the Executive Committee should necessarily be forwarded to the Conference.

15. The Director said that the Bureau would examine the resolutions and other documents mandating the various progress reports to see whether some could be considered only by the Executive Committee. In some cases, it might be necessary for the Conference to approve a change in the reporting schedule, which could then be implemented in 2013. The Bureau would also add a program policy item relating to bioethics to the agendas of the Committee and the Conference. As to the suggested report on TCC, she proposed that TCC could be a focus of her quinquennial report, which would be presented to the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, and then a specific report on TCC could be prepared and the matter placed on the agenda as a program policy item in 2013. She pointed out that cooperation among countries and among subregions would also be addressed to some extent in the discussions of the new regional program budget policy.

16. Dr. Luiz Augusto Galvão (Area Manager, Sustainable Development and Environmental Health, PASB), responding to the question concerning the proposed Strategy and Plan of Action on Sustainable Health and Development, said that the document to be presented to the Executive Committee would be based largely on the document being drafted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which would be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012. The PAHO document would take stock of the progress made with regard to the health aspects of Agenda 21, adopted 20 years earlier by the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. It would also take into consideration new health-related challenges to development, such as the growing epidemic of chronic noncommunicable diseases. The revised version of the document to be submitted to the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference would take account of the outcome of the Rio+20 conference and its implications for the Region and for the Organization. (It was

subsequently decided to postpone the consideration of this item until after the Rio+20 conference—see paragraphs 14 to 15 of Annex D.)

17. The Director suggested that, as had been the practice in previous years, the Committee might wish to allow a period of about a month for the list of topics to be finalized. During that time, the Bureau would review periodic reporting requirements, the mandates it had received from the recently concluded 51st Directing Council, and any proposed agenda items submitted by Member States. The final list of topics would then be circulated to Committee members for approval by electronic means.

18. The Executive Committee agreed to that suggestion and decided that the Sixth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration (SPBA) should be held from 14 to 16 March 2012; that the 150th Session of the Executive Committee should be held from 18 to 22 June 2012; and that the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, should be held from 17 to 21 September 2012 (Decision CE149[D4]). The final list of topics was discussed and approved during a virtual meeting held on 16 November 2011.

### **Matters for Information**

#### ***Process for the Formulation of the PAHO Budget Policy (Document CE149/INF/1)<sup>2</sup>***

19. Mr. Román Sotela (Senior Advisor, Program and Budget Management, PASB) introduced Document CE149/INF/1, which provided background on the current PAHO Regional Program Budget Policy, adopted in 2004 (Resolution CD45.R6), and outlined the proposed process for the formulation of a new budget policy, which would guide the allocation of the Organization's budget among its three levels: regional, subregional, and country. It was proposed to establish a consultative working group composed of experts from Member States to formulate the new policy. A PASB task force would support the working group and serve as its secretariat. The terms of reference for the working group were presented in the document, which also contained a timeline for the formulation of the policy. The process was expected to culminate with approval of the new policy at the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference in September 2012.

20. It was proposed that the members of the consultative working group should be identified during a virtual meeting of the Committee to be convened by mid-November 2011. The first meeting of the working group was scheduled for mid-January 2012.

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<sup>2</sup> During a virtual meeting held on 16 November 2011, it was agreed to move this item from “Matters for Information” to “Program Policy Items” on the Committee’s agenda, and the document symbol was therefore changed to CE149/3 (see Annex D).



21. The Director observed that PAHO was one of few international organizations that had an explicit budget policy and was the only one in the Region with a policy that was based on Member States' needs, not on gross domestic product, and that also took into account factors such as countries' population size and Human Development Index ranking. Those aspects of the policy in force represented the vision of the experts who had formulated it. As it had done in 2004, the Bureau would endeavor to assemble a working group that was representative of the countries of the Region in terms of geographic balance, population size, and other factors and that included persons with relevant expertise, including, for example, persons with experience in the allocation of resources in decentralized or federal systems comprising various levels.

22. The Committee endorsed the proposed process for the formulation of the PAHO budget policy and agreed that a virtual meeting would be convened by mid-November to establish the composition of the working group and approve its terms of reference. The virtual meeting was held on 16 November 2011 (see Annex D).

### **Closure of the Session**

23. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the President declared the 149th Session of the Executive Committee closed.

### **Decisions**

24. The following are the decisions taken by the Executive Committee in the course of the 149th Session:

#### ***CE149(D1) Election of Officers***

Pursuant to Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, the Committee elected the following Member States to serve as officers for the period from October 2011 to October 2012:

President:	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Vice President:	Brazil
Rapporteur:	Grenada

*(Plenary meeting, 30 September 2011)*

#### ***CE149(D2) Adoption of the Agenda***

Pursuant to Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, the Committee adopted the agenda submitted by the Director (Document CE149/1, Rev. 1).

*(Plenary meeting, 30 September 2011)*

***CE149(D3) Election of One Member to the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration on the Expiration of the Period of Office of Guatemala on the Executive Committee***

The Executive Committee elected El Salvador to serve on the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration.

*(Plenary meeting, 30 September 2011)*

***CE149(D4) Proposed Dates and Topics for the Sixth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration; the 150th Session of the Executive Committee; and the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas***

The Executive Committee decided that the Sixth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration should be held from 14 to 16 March 2012; that the 150th Session of the Executive Committee should be held from 18 to 22 June 2012; and that the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, should be held from 17 to 21 September 2012. The Committee agreed that the Bureau would draw up the list of topics to be discussed by the Governing Bodies in 2012 and circulate it to Committee members within a period of 30 days, taking into account any input received from and items proposed by Member States.

*(Plenary meeting, 30 September 2011)*

***CE149(D5) Amendment of the Agenda***

The Committee decided to move the item entitled “Process for the Formulation of the PAHO Budget Policy” from “Matters for Information” to “Program Policy Items” and adopted an amended agenda (CE149/1, Rev. 2).

*(Virtual plenary meeting, 16 November 2011)*

***CE149(D6) Approval of the Terms of Reference of the Consultative Working Group on the PAHO Budget Policy***

The Committee approved the terms of reference of the Consultative Working Group on the PAHO Budget Policy as set out in Document CE149/3.

*(Virtual plenary meeting, 16 November 2011)*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the President of the 149th Session of the Executive Committee, the Delegate of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and the Secretary ex officio, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, sign the present Final Report in the Spanish language.

DONE in Washington, D.C., United States of America, on this sixteenth day of November in the year two thousand eleven. The Secretary shall deposit the original signed document in the archives of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

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Miriam Morales  
Delegate of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela  
President of the 149th Session  
of the Executive Committee

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Mirta Roses Periago  
Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau  
Secretary ex officio of the 149th Session  
of the Executive Committee

## **AGENDA**

### **1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**

### **2. PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

- 2.1 Election of the President, Vice President, and Rapporteur of the Executive Committee

*(Rule 15, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee)*

- 2.2 Adoption of the Agenda

*(Rule 9, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee)*

### **3. COMMITTEE MATTERS**

- 3.1 Election of One Member to the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration on the Expiration of the Period of Office on the Executive Committee of Guatemala

- 3.2 Process for the Election of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and Nomination of the Regional Director of the World Health Organization for the Americas

*(Art.21.A, PAHO Constitution)*

*(Rule 56, Rules of Procedure of the Pan American Sanitary Conference)*

### **4. PROGRAM POLICY MATTERS**

- 4.1 Process for the Formulation of the PAHO Budget Policy

### **5. GOVERNING BODIES MATTERS**

- 5.1 Dates and Proposed Topics for the 6th Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

**5. GOVERNING BODIES MATTERS** *(cont.)*

5.2 Dates and Proposed Topics for the 150th Session of the Executive Committee

5.3 Dates of the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

*(Art. 7.A, PAHO Constitution)*

*(Rule 1, Rules of Procedure of the Pan American Sanitary Conference)*

**6. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

[Item moved to Program Policy Matters as 4.1.]

**7. OTHER MATTERS**

**8. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION**

**DRAFT LIST OF PROPOSED TOPICS FOR THE 2012  
SESSIONS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES**

**SIXTH SESSION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE  
ON PROGRAM, BUDGET, AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Procedural Matters**

1. Election of the President, Vice President, and Rapporteur
2. Adoption of the Agenda

**Program Policy Matters**

3. Mid-term Evaluation of the Health Agenda for the Americas
4. Proposed PAHO Budget Policy
5. Preliminary Program and Budget 2010-2011 End-of-biennium Assessment/Second Interim PAHO Strategic Plan 2008-2012 Progress Report
6. Nongovernmental Organizations in Official Relations with PAHO
7. Appointment of one Member to the Audit Committee of PAHO

**Administrative and Financial Matters**

8. Overview of the Financial Report of the Director for 2011
9. Amendments to Financial Regulations and Financial Rules (if any)
10. Surplus from the Implementation of IPSAS 2010
11. Master Capital Investment Plan
12. Status of Projects Funded from the PAHO Holding Account
13. Amendments to the PASB Staff Rules and Regulations
14. Staffing Statistics

**Matters for Information**

15. Project for Modernization of the PASB Management Information System: Progress Report
16. Process for the Election of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the Nomination of the Regional Director of the World Health Organization

17. Draft Provisional Agenda for the 150th Session of the Executive Committee

### **150th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **Procedural Matters**

1. Adoption of the Agenda and the Program of Meetings
2. Representation of the Executive Committee at the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas
3. Provisional Agenda for the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 64th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

#### **Committee Matters**

4. Report on the Sixth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration
5. PAHO Award for Administration (2012)
6. Nongovernmental Organizations in Official Relations with PAHO
7. Annual Report of the Ethics Office (2011)
8. Appointment of one Member to the Audit Committee of PAHO

#### **Program Policy Matters**

9. Mid-term Evaluation of the Health Agenda for the Americas
10. Proposed PAHO Budget Policy
11. Preliminary Program and Budget 2010-2011 End-of-biennium Assessment/Second Interim PAHO Strategic Plan 2008-2012 Progress Report
12. Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health
13. Elimination of Measles, Rubella, and Congenital Rubella Syndrome in the Region of the Americas
14. Strategy and Plan of Action on Integrated Child Health
15. Policy on the Assessment of Health Technologies for Use in the Health Services
16. Strategy and Plan of Action on Knowledge Management Systems and Health Communication

17. Role of the Ministries of Health vis-à-vis International Health Assistance and the Leadership of the Health Cluster
18. Bioethics: Towards the Integration of Ethics in Health

#### **Administrative and Financial Matters**

19. Report on the Collection of Quota Contributions
20. Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 2011
21. Surplus from the Implementation of IPSAS 2010
22. Report of the Office of Internal Oversight and Evaluation Services
23. Report of the Audit Committee of the Pan American Health Organization
24. Status of Projects Funded from the PAHO Holding Account
25. Master Capital Investment Plan
26. Amendments to Financial Regulations and Financial Rules (if any)

#### **Personnel Matters**

27. Amendments to the PASB Staff Rules and Regulations
28. PASB Staffing Statistics
29. Statement by the Representative of the PAHO/WHO Staff Association

#### **Matters for Information**

30. Process for the Election of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the Nomination of the Regional Director of the World Health Organization
31. Update on WHO Reform
32. Project for Modernization of the PASB Management Information System: Progress Report
33. Report of the PAHO/WHO Advisory Committee of Health Research to the Governing Bodies
34. Report on the Preparations for the Roundtable on Healthy Aging



## **Progress Reports**

### ***Progress Reports on Technical Matters***

35. Social Determinants of Health
36. Plan of Action for Implementing the Gender Equality Policy
37. Primary Health Care in the Americas
38. Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on Nutrition in Health and Development 2006-2015
39. Regional Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS/STI, 2006-2015, of PAHO
40. Current Dengue Situation and Progress in Implementation of the Integrated Dengue Prevention and Control Strategy
41. Implementation of the International Health Regulations
42. Regional Goals for Human Resources for Health 2007-2015
43. Status of the Pan American Centers

### ***Resolutions and other Actions of Intergovernmental Organizations of Interest to PAHO***

44. Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly

## **28th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE**

### **Matters pertaining to the Constitution and Rules of Procedure**

1. Appointment of the Committee on Credentials
2. Election of the President, Two Vice Presidents, and Rapporteur
3. Establishment of the General Committee
4. Establishment of a Working Party to Study the Application of Article 6.B of the PAHO Constitution
5. Adoption of the Agenda
6. Annual Report of the President of the Executive Committee

7. Reports of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau
  - A: Quinquennial Report
  - B: Health in the Americas
8. Election of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and Appointment of the Regional Director of the World Health Organization for the Americas
9. Election of Three Member States to the Executive Committee on the Expiration of the Periods of Office of Colombia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

### **Program Policy Matters**

10. Mid-term Evaluation of the Health Agenda for the Americas
11. PAHO Budget Policy
12. Program and Budget 2010-2011 End-of-biennium Assessment/Second Interim PAHO Strategic Plan 2008-2012 Progress Report
13. Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health
14. Elimination of Measles, Rubella, and Congenital Rubella Syndrome in the Region of the Americas
15. Strategy and Plan of Action on Integrated Child Health
16. Policy on the Assessment of Health Technologies for Use in the Health Services
17. Strategy and Plan of Action on Knowledge Management Systems and Health Communication
18. Role of the Ministries of Health vis-à-vis International Health Assistance and the Leadership of the Health Cluster
19. Bioethics: Towards the Integration of Ethics in Health
20. Roundtable on Healthy Aging

### **Administrative and Financial Matters**

21. Report on the Collection of Quota Contributions
22. Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 2011
23. Surplus from the Implementation of IPSAS 2010
24. Amendments to Financial Regulations and Financial Rules (if any)

25. Salary of the Director and Amendments to the Staff Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

#### **Selection of Member States to Boards and Committees**

26. Selection of Two Member States from the Region of the Americas for the Advisory Committee on Policy Coordination of the Special Program of Research, Development, and Research Training in Human Reproduction
27. Election of Three Members to the Advisory Committee of the Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (BIREME)

#### **Awards**

28. PAHO Award for Administration (2012)

#### **Matters for Information**

29. Project for Modernization of the PASB Management Information System: Progress Report
30. Update on WHO Reform
31. Report of the PAHO/WHO Advisory Committee of Health Research to the Governing Bodies

#### **Progress Reports**

##### ***Progress Reports on Technical Matters***

32. Social Determinants of Health
33. Plan of Action for Implementing the Gender Equality Policy
34. Primary Health Care in the Americas
35. Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on Nutrition in Health and Development 2006-2015
36. Regional Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS/STI, 2006-2015, of PAHO
37. Current Dengue Situation and Progress in Implementation of the Integrated Dengue Prevention and Control Strategy
38. Implementation of the International Health Regulations
39. Regional Goals for Human Resources for Health 2007-2015
40. Status of the Pan American Centers

***Resolutions and Other Actions of Intergovernmental Organizations of Interest to PAHO***

41. Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly
42. Forty-second Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States
43. Subregional Organizations

***Progress Reports on Administrative and Financial Matters***

44. Master Capital Investment Plan

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS/LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES**  
**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE/MIEMBROS DEL COMITÉ**

**BRAZIL/BRASIL**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Ministro Eduardo Botelho Barbosa  
Assessor Especial do Ministro  
para Assuntos Internacionais  
Ministério da Saúde  
Brasília

Delegate – Delegado

Sr. Leandro Luiz Viegas  
Chefe da Divisão de Temas Multilaterais  
Ministério da Saúde  
Brasília

**CHILE**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Dr. Luis Castillo  
Subsecretario de Redes Asistenciales  
Ministerio de Salud  
Santiago

Delegate – Delegado

Sra. María Jesús Roncarati Guillon  
Coordinadora de Proyectos  
Oficina de Cooperación y Asuntos  
Internacionales  
Ministerio de Salud  
Santiago

**COLOMBIA**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Sra. Carmen Angulo Chaparro  
Asesora Despacho Viceministra  
Ministerio de la Protección Social  
Santa Fe de Bogotá

**EL SALVADOR**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Dra. María Isabel Rodríguez  
Ministra de Salud Pública  
y Asistencia Social  
Ministerio de Salud Pública  
y Asistencia Social  
San Salvador

**GRENADA/GRANADA**

Hon. Ann Peters  
Minister of Health  
Ministry of Health  
St. George's

**PERU/PERÚ**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Sr. Giancarlo Gálvez  
Segundo Secretario, Representante Alterno  
del Perú ante la Organización de  
los Estados Americanos  
Washington, D.C.

**SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES/  
SAN VICENTE Y LAS GRANADINAS**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Dr. St. Clair Thomas  
Chief Medical Officer  
Ministry of Health and the Environment  
Kingstown

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE/MIEMBROS DEL COMITÉ (cont.)**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA**      **VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF/ REPÚBLICA BOLIVARIANA DE)**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Mr. David Hohman  
Deputy Director  
Office of Global Affairs  
Department of Health and Human  
Services  
Washington, D.C.

Delegates – Delegados

Ms. Ann Blackwood  
Director of Health Programs  
Office of Technical and Specialized  
Agencies  
Bureau of International Organization Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C.

Ms. Leah Hsu  
International Health Analyst  
Office of Global Health Affairs  
Department of Health and Human  
Services  
Washington, D.C.

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Dra. Miriam Morales  
Viceministra de Redes de Salud Colectiva  
Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Salud  
Caracas

Delegate – Delegado

Srita. Valentina Martínez  
Abogada  
Misión Permanente de la República  
Bolivariana de Venezuela ante la  
Organización de los Estados  
Americanos  
Washington, D.C.

**OTHER MEMBER STATES/OTROS ESTADOS MIEMBROS**

**CANADA/CANADÁ**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Ms. Gloria Wiseman  
Director  
Multilateral Division  
International Affairs Directorate  
Health Canada  
Ottawa

Delegates – Delegados

Ms. Kate Dickson  
Senior Policy Advisor  
PAHO/Americas  
International Affairs Directorate  
Health Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario

**CANADA/CANADÁ (cont.)**

Delegates – Delegados (cont.)

Mr. Jamie Baker  
Manager  
Bilateral and Regional Affairs International  
Division  
Public Health Agency  
Ottawa, Ontario

**OTHER MEMBER STATES/OTROS ESTADOS MIEMBROS (cont.)**

**MEXICO/MÉXICO**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Dra. Alma Eunice Rendón Cárdenas  
Directora General de Relaciones  
Internacionales  
Secretaría de Salud  
México, D.F.

Delegates – Delegados

Lic. Martha Caballero Abraham  
Directora de Cooperación Bilateral y  
Regional  
Secretaría de Salud  
México, D.F.

Lic. Karen Aspuru Juárez  
Subdirectora  
Subdirección de Gestión Interamericana  
Secretaría de Salud  
México, D.F.

**MEXICO/MÉXICO (cont.)**

Alternate – Alterno

Lic. Marevna García Arreola  
Jefa del Departamento de  
Cooperación Internacional  
Secretaría de Salud  
México, D.F.

**URUGUAY**

Chief Delegate – Jefe de Delegación

Sra. Adriana Isabel Rodríguez  
Consejera, Representante Alternata  
del Uruguay ante la Organización de los  
Estados Americanos  
Washington, D.C.

**PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
ORGANIZACIÓN PANAMERICANA DE LA SALUD**

**Director and Secretary *ex officio*  
of the Executive Committee/  
Directora y Secretaria *ex officio*  
del Comité Ejecutivo**

Dr. Mirta Roses Periago

**Advisers to the Director/  
Asesores de la Directora**

Dr. Jon Kim Andrus  
Deputy Director  
Director Adjunto

Dr. Socorro Gross  
Assistant Director  
Subdirectora

**Advisers to the Director/  
Asesores de la Directora (cont.)**

Mr. Guillermo Birgmingham  
Director of Administration  
Director de Administración

Dr. Heidi Jiménez  
Legal Counsel, Office of Legal Counsel  
Asesora Jurídica, Oficina de la Asesora  
Jurídica

Ms. Piedad Huerta  
Advisor, Governing Bodies Office  
Asesora, Oficina de los Cuerpos Directivos

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS/LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES  
VIRTUAL MEETING/REUNIÓN VIRTUAL**

**16 NOVEMBER 2011/16 DE NOVIEMBRE DEL 2011**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE/MIEMBROS DEL COMITÉ**

**BRAZIL/BRASIL**

Sr. Leandro Luiz Viegas  
Chefe  
Divisão de Temas Multilaterais  
Assessoria de Assuntos Internacionais  
Ministério da Saúde  
Brasília

**CHILE**

Sr. José Miguel Huerta  
Jefe Oficina de Cooperación y Asuntos  
Internacionales  
Ministerio de Salud  
Santiago

Sra. María Jesús Roncarati Guillon  
Coordinadora de Proyectos  
Oficina de Cooperación y Asuntos  
Internacionales  
Ministerio de Salud  
Santiago

**COLOMBIA**

Sra. Carmen Angulo Chaparro  
Asesora del Despacho la Viceministra de  
Salud y Bienestar  
Ministerio de la Protección Social  
Santa Fe de Bogotá

Sra. Marieta Ortega  
Oficina de Cooperación y Relaciones  
Internacionales  
Ministerio de la Protección Social  
Santa Fe de Bogotá

**EL SALVADOR/ EL SALVADOR**

Dra. María Isabel Rodríguez  
Ministra de Salud Pública  
y Asistencia Social  
Ministerio de Salud Pública  
y Asistencia Social  
San Salvador

**EL SALVADOR/ EL SALVADOR (cont.)**

Dra. Laura Nervi  
Asesora del Despacho Ministerial para  
Cooperación Internacional  
Ministerio de Salud Pública  
y Asistencia Social  
San Salvador

Dr. Jorge Ramírez  
Asistente Ejecutivo de la Señora Ministra  
Ministerio de Salud Pública  
y Asistencia Social  
San Salvador

Ing. Mauricio Pineda  
Gerente de Operaciones  
Ministerio de Salud Pública  
y Asistencia Social  
San Salvador

**GRENADA/GRANADA**

Hon. Ann L. Peters  
Minister for Health  
Ministry of Health  
St. George's

**PERU/PERÚ**

Sr. Dr. Alberto Tejada Noriega  
Ministro de Salud  
Ministerio de Salud  
Lima

Dr. Rubén Espinosa  
Director General  
Oficina General de Cooperación Internacional  
Ministerio de Salud  
Lima

Lic. Flor García Grados  
Directora Ejecutiva de Planeamiento y  
Gestión Institucional  
Oficina General de Planeamiento y  
Presupuesto  
Ministerio de Salud  
Lima



**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE/MIEMBROS DEL COMITÉ (cont.)**

**SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES/  
SAN VICENTE Y LAS GRANADINAS**

Dr. St. Clair Thomas  
Chief Medical Officer  
Ministry of Health and the Environment  
Kingstown

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/ESTADOS  
UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA**

Mr. Peter Mamacos  
Multilateral Branch Chief  
Office of Global Affairs  
Department of Health and Human  
Services  
Washington, D.C.

**VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF/  
REPÚBLICA BOLIVARIANA DE)**

Dra. Miriam Morales  
Viceministra de Salud Colectiva  
Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Salud  
Caracas

Lic. Pedro Albarrán Depablos  
Oficina de Cooperación Técnica  
y Relaciones Internacionales  
Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Salud  
Caracas

**OTHER MEMBER STATES/OTROS ESTADOS MIEMBROS**

**CANADA/CANADÁ**

Dr. Adrijana Corluka  
Policy Analyst  
Health Canada  
Ottawa

Ms. Lucero Hernández  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Multilateral Relations Division  
International Affairs Directorate  
Health Canada  
Ottawa

**COSTA RICA/COSTA RICA**

Dra. Sisy Castillo  
Viceministra de Salud  
Ministerio de Salud  
San José

Lic. Rosibel Vargas  
Jefa de Asuntos Internacionales  
Ministerio de Salud  
San José

Sra. Adriana Salazar  
Encargada de asuntos  
bilaterales y multilaterales  
Ministerio de Salud  
San José

**CUBA/CUBA**

Dr. Antonio Diosdado  
González Fernández  
Jefe del Departamento de Organismos  
Internacionales  
Ministerio de Salud Pública  
La Habana

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC/  
REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA**

Dr. Roberto Peguero  
Viceministro Administrativo y Financiero  
Ministerio de Salud  
Santo Domingo

**HAITI/HAITÍ**

Dr. Gabriel Thimothé  
Directeur Général  
Ministère de la Santé publique  
et de la Population  
Port-au-Prince

**JAMAICA/JAMAICA**

Dr. Jean Dixon  
Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Health  
Kingston

**OTHER MEMBER STATES/OTROS ESTADOS MIEMBROS (cont.)**

**JAMAICA/JAMAICA (cont.)**

Mrs. Ava-Gay Timberlake  
Director  
International Cooperation in Health  
Ministry of Health  
Kingston

Ms. Evelyn Bloomfield  
Director, Budget  
Ministry of Health  
Kingston

**MEXICO/MÉXICO**

Lic. Martha Caballero Abraham  
Directora de Cooperación Bilateral y  
Regional  
Secretaría de Salud  
México, D.F.

Lic. Karen Aspuru Juárez  
Subdirectora  
Subdirección de Gestión Interamericana  
Secretaría de Salud  
México, D.F.

**MEXICO/MÉXICO (cont.)**

Lic. Marevna García Arreola  
Jefa del Departamento de  
Cooperación Internacional  
Secretaría de Salud  
México, D.F.

**NICARAGUA/ NICARAGUA**

Lic. Jaime González  
Director General Administrativo Financiero  
Ministerio de Salud  
Managua

**PARAGUAY/ PARAGUAY**

Lic. Enrique García de Zúñiga  
Director General de  
Relaciones Internacionales  
Ministerio de Salud Pública y  
Bienestar Social  
Asunción

**PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
ORGANIZACIÓN PANAMERICANA DE LA SALUD**

**Advisers to the Director/  
Asesores de la Directora**

Dr. Jon Kim Andrus  
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**Advisers to the Director/  
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Dr. Heidi Jiménez  
Legal Counsel, Office of Legal Counsel  
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Jurídica

Ms. Piedad Huerta  
Advisor, Governing Bodies Office  
Asesora, Oficina de los Cuerpos Directivos



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## 149th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 30 September 2011

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CE149/FR (Eng.)  
Annex D  
16 November 2011  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

### REPORT OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON 16 NOVEMBER 2011

1. A virtual meeting of the Executive Committee was convened on 16 November 2011 to take action on matters left pending during the meeting held at PAHO Headquarters on 30 September 2011. Delegates of all nine members of the Executive Committee took part in the meeting. Delegates of Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Paraguay participated as observers.
2. Dr. Mirta Roses (Director, PASB) was unable to participate owing to illness and Dr. Jon Kim Andrus (Deputy Director, PASB) therefore served as Secretary *ex officio*. Dr. Socorro Gross Galiano (Assistant Director, PASB) served as Technical Secretary.

#### *Amendment of the Agenda (Document CE149/1, Rev. 2)*

3. The President of the Executive Committee, the Delegate of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, suggested that the agenda item entitled "Process for the Formulation of the PAHO Budget Policy" should be moved from "Matters for Information" to "Program Policy Matters" on the Committee's agenda as it was necessary for the Committee to take action on the item. The Committee agreed to that suggestion and the agenda was amended accordingly (Decision CE149[D5]). As a result of that decision, information document CE149/INF/1 became working document CE149/3.

#### *Process for the Formulation of the PAHO Budget Policy (Document CE149/3)*

4. Mr. Román Sotela (Senior Advisor, Program and Budget Management, PASB) reviewed the background of the budget policy in force, the timeline for formulation of a new budget policy, and the terms of reference for the consultative working group, contained in Document CE149/3, noting that since the Committee's meeting on

30 September, Committee members had been invited to submit names of possible working group members and that five candidates had been proposed, two from Chile, one from Grenada, and two from Peru. Ideally, in the Bureau's view, the group would consist of five to seven experts from a mix of fields—including budgeting, policy development, health planning and economics, and epidemiology and health metrics—and its membership would be balanced geographically, linguistically, and in terms of the size of the population of members' countries of origin.

5. In the discussion that followed, delegates inquired how priorities for resource allocation would be set and how it would be ensured that those priorities were compatible with priorities established at the regional and country levels, what impact the WHO reform process would have on the formulation of the new policy and on resource allocation, whether the documents to be provided to the working group would analyze the pros and cons of other organizations' budget policies, and whether all Member States would have the opportunity to provide input into the working group's work. In addition, clarification was sought as to whether all Member States were entitled to nominate members, the deadline for submitting nominations, and the working group's timeline and working methods.

6. Mr. Sotela said that the group would hold its first meeting in January 2012, at which it would begin examining the policy in force and the evaluation of it conducted by the PASB Office of Internal Oversight and Evaluation Services (IES), reviewing the budget policies of other intergovernmental organizations and identifying best practices, and discussing concepts and substantive issues of relevance to the development of the new policy. The group would meet a second time in April 2012, following the Sixth Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration, to review any recommendations made by the Subcommittee and to finalize a draft policy to be submitted for consideration by the Executive Committee at its 150th Session in June 2012.

7. The WHO reform process comprised several aspects, including an examination of the roles of the various levels of the Organization and of its priorities and areas of focus. The possibility of moving from a two-year to a three-year budgeting cycle was also being assessed. WHO reform would thus clearly have a bearing on the work of the working group. However, it would not have any immediate impact on the allocation of resources in the 2012-2013 biennium, since those allocations had already been approved. The new PAHO budget policy would take effect in the 2014-2015 biennium. Its implementation would thus coincide with the implementation of the Organization's next Strategic Plan, which would set out the technical cooperation priorities and targets for the period 2013-2017. The Strategic Plan would identify the priorities for resource allocation, while the budget policy would provide guidance on how resources were to be allocated to the various levels and entities within the Organization in accordance with those priorities.

8. As to whether the documents to be prepared for the working group would present pros and cons of other agencies' policies, the Bureau could provide an opinion of those policies if the Committee so wished, but would be hesitant to label any aspect of them as positive or negative so as not to unduly influence the thinking of the working group members. He believed that the pros and cons of the various policies would come to light in the course of the working group's discussions.

9. Responding to the questions concerning the working group's membership, Dr. Heidi Jiménez (Legal Counsel, PASB) said that, in order to ensure openness and transparency in the working group's discussions, she would suggest that its membership be limited to experts from Member States that were currently members of the Executive Committee. However, all Member States could be invited to participate as observers in the group's deliberations.

10. Mr. Sotela affirmed that all Member States would have the opportunity to provide input on the budget policy, both before and during the 2012 sessions of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration and the Executive Committee. All reports of the working group would be made available to Member States for comment.

11. The Deputy Director asked that any Committee member wishing to submit nominations of working group members should do so by 30 November 2011. The Director would review the nominations and identify a group of experts who met the criteria outlined in paragraph 3 above.

12. The Committee agreed to and approved the terms of reference of the consultative working group (Decision CE149[D6]).

***Proposed topics for the 2012 sessions of the Governing Bodies (Document CE149/DIV/1)***

13. The Deputy Director drew attention to several suggested changes in the proposed list of topics for the 2012 sessions of the Governing Bodies, highlighted in Document CE149/DIV/1, and suggested that the Committee should focus only on the items proposed for consideration at its 150th Session, as all those items would automatically go to the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference for consideration. He noted that it was proposed to postpone consideration of the Strategic Plan 2013-2017 until 2013 so that PAHO could better align its work with several important global prioritization processes under way, including the WHO reform process and the formulation of the next WHO general program of work. The new strategic plan should also take into consideration the outcomes of the revision of PAHO's budget policy, which might influence the distribution of resources within the Organization and therefore affect the means available to implement the strategic plan. In addition, possible changes in some planning instruments might affect the duration of the new PAHO strategic plan. The existing plan

was aligned with the Health Agenda for the Americas, which covered the period 2008-2017, a period that did not align with global planning frameworks. Adjusting the duration of the new PAHO strategic plan to that of the next WHO plan could significantly simplify evaluation and reporting. The results of the mid-term assessment of the Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017, which would not be available until September 2012, might also serve to inform the development of the new strategic plan.

14. The Bureau also suggested that consideration of the proposed strategy and plan of action on sustainable health and development should be postponed until 2013 so that due account could be taken of the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference.

15. In the ensuing discussion, it was suggested that there should be a briefing during the Pan American Sanitary Conference on the Rio+20 Conference, especially with respect to any health-related matters. It was also suggested that there should be a report on progress in ensuring access to drugs for the treatment of Chagas disease. In relation to the review of the Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health, it was suggested that emphasis should be placed on the problem of obesity in children.

16. The Committee endorsed the proposed list of topics for the 2012 sessions of the Governing Bodies as set out in Document CE149/DIV/1.