



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



143rd SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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FINAL REPORT

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Annex

Annex. Agenda

FINAL REPORT

Opening of the Session

1. The 143rd Session of the Executive Committee was held at the Headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in Washington, D.C., on 3 October 2008. The session was attended by representatives of the following nine Members of the Executive Committee elected by the Directing Council or the Pan American Sanitary Conference: Argentina, Bolivia, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, and Uruguay. Present in an observer capacity were representatives of Canada and Venezuela.

2. The Committee also held a virtual meeting to continue its discussion of the topics to be included on the agendas of the Third Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration; the 144th Session of the Executive Committee; and the 49th Directing Council. The report of that meeting is contained in Document CE143/FR, Add. I, which is attached to the present report.

3. Dr. María Julia Muñoz (Uruguay, outgoing Vice President of the Executive Committee) opened the 143rd Session and welcomed the participants, extending a special welcome to the new members elected by the recently concluded 48th Directing Council—Argentina, Guatemala, and Haiti—and thanking the outgoing members, Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, and Panama, for their service to 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 2008 to October 2009 (Decision CE143(D1)):

President: Uruguay (Dr. María Julia Muñoz)

Vice President: Suriname (Dr. Celsius Waterberg)

Rapporteur: Mexico (Dr. Fernando Meneses González)

5. Dr. Mirta Roses Periago, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB), served as Secretary *ex officio*, and Dr. Cristina Beato, Deputy Director of PASB, served as Technical Secretary.

Adoption of the Agenda (Document CE143/1)

6. Pursuant to Rule 9 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the Director (Decision CE143(D2)).

Subcommittee Matters

Election of One Member to the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

7. The Committee elected Guatemala to serve on the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration on the expiration of the period of office on the Executive Committee of Chile. The Committee expressed appreciation to Chile for its service. (Decision CE143(D3)).

Governing Body Matters

Dates and Proposed Topics for the Third Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

8. The Director proposed that the Third Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration (SPBA) should be held from 11 to 13 March 2009. She also proposed the following items for discussion by the SPBA:

- Proposed program budget of the World Health Organization for 2010-2011
- Proposed program budget of PAHO for 2010-2011
- New scale of quota assessments to be applied to the 2010-2011 budget proposal
- Periodic review of quota contributions
- Status report on projects financed from the Holding Fund, to be submitted to the SPBA pursuant to Directing Council Resolution CD48.R1

9. 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 agenda to be finalized. During that time, the Secretariat would review periodic reporting requirements, the mandates it had received from the recently concluded 48th Directing Council, and any

proposed agenda items submitted by Member States. The provisional agenda for the Subcommittee's third session would then be circulated to Committee members for approval by electronic means.

10. A Member State requested that the Subcommittee, and subsequently the Executive Committee, should undertake a substantive examination of PAHO's Revolving Fund for Vaccine Procurement in 2009.

11. The Executive Committee decided that the Third Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration would be held from 11 to 13 March 2009 and agreed that the Secretariat would draw up the agenda by 10 November 2008, taking into account any items proposed by Member States, as well as items that were mandatory in accordance with the planning cycle of the Organization and resolutions of the Governing Bodies (Decision CE143(D4)).

Dates and Proposed Topics for the 144th Session of the Executive Committee

12. The Director proposed that the 144th Session of the Committee should be held from 22 to 26 June 2009. She presented the following list of topics for possible consideration by the Governing Bodies in 2009, noting that several of them had been proposed by Member States for consideration in 2008, but had been deferred to 2009:

- Health of older persons
- Intrafamily violence, especially gender-based violence against women
- Regional Immunization Program and Revolving Fund for Vaccine Procurement
- Control and elimination of neglected diseases and other communicable diseases in Latin America and the Caribbean, including reformulation of the goal for 'Chagas' disease elimination
- Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Cancer
- Regional Plan of Action 2009-2014 for the Implementation of PAHO's Gender Equality Policy
- Regional Plan of Action 2010-2018 for Improving Adolescent and Youth Health
- Framework policy on organ donation and transplants
- Mental health
- PAHO's policy on health research
- PAHO's publications and communications policy

13. Member States proposed the following additional items:

- Progress report on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the Region
- Prevention and control of breast cancer in the Region
- Family, community, and intercultural health
- Child growth and development
- Eating disorders, including anorexia and bulimia

14. It was suggested that the last two topics might be discussed in conjunction with the subject of adolescent health.

15. The Director proposed that a period of approximately one month should be allowed, during which time the Secretariat would undertake a thorough review in order to identify items on which progress reports were required pursuant to resolutions of the Governing Bodies, and would endeavor to prioritize the various items proposed by Member States, bearing in mind that considerable time would undoubtedly be devoted to the discussion of budget-related matters in 2009. PAHO technical staff would also consult with Member States in order to determine the approach to be taken to the various proposed items, as such consultations were key to ensuring consensus on the resolutions that would eventually go forward to the Directing Council. The Secretariat would then draw up a provisional agenda and circulate it to members by 10 November 2008.

16. The Committee agreed to that suggestion and decided to hold its 144th Session from 22 to 26 June 2009 (Decision CE143(D5)).

Dates of the 49th Directing Council, 61st Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

17. The Director proposed that the 49th Directing Council, 61st Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, should be held at PAHO Headquarters in Washington, D.C., from 28 September to 2 October 2009.

18. A Member, noting that the proposed dates would coincide with the start of his country's budget year, which would make it difficult for his delegation to participate, asked that the Committee consider scheduling the session for the last week of September.

19. The Director pointed out that the last week of September would coincide with the high-level segment of the United Nations General Assembly, which would lead to scheduling conflicts for some delegations and would also create logistic problems for PAHO, in particular with respect to the hiring of interpreters. In addition, the sessions of

the Directing Council had to be scheduled bearing in mind the dates of the other five WHO Regional Committees, which met in succession, starting in late August or early September. Traditionally, PAHO's Directing Council had met near the end of the cycle of Regional Committee sessions. Nevertheless, she undertook to consult with the other Regional Directors and explore the possibilities for shifting the dates. In the meantime, she suggested that the Committee should tentatively approve the proposed dates.

20. On that understanding, the Committee decided that the 49th Directing Council, 61st Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, would take place at PAHO Headquarters in Washington, D.C., from 28 September to 2 October 2009 (Decision CE143(D6)).

Personnel Matters

United Nations Contract Reform Implementation in PAHO (Document CE143/2)

21. Ms. Diane Arnold (Area Manager, Human Resources Management, PAHO) recalled that, at its 140th Session, the Executive Committee had confirmed a number of amendments to the PAHO Staff Rules relating to contract reform, with the understanding that PAHO would not proceed to implement them until the United Nations General Assembly had completed its consideration of contractual arrangements and conditions of service for United Nations staff, which had still not occurred. The PAHO Secretariat had reviewed the approved changes and felt strongly that one of them could be implemented immediately, independently of the others. That change related to contracts for consultants. Under the current system, consultants were treated as staff members of the Organization and were therefore entitled to the same benefits and entitlements as other PAHO staff. WHO had recently amended its staff rules to convert consultant contracts to non-staff contracts. PAHO was proposing to follow suit. The change would substantially reduce costs and lighten the administrative burden for the Organization. Document CE143/2 provided details on the advantages of implementing the change immediately.

22. The Executive Committee adopted, with one minor editorial amendment, the proposed resolution contained in Document CE143/2, authorizing the Director to implement, with effect from 1 January 2009, the Staff Rule amendments that would change the status of short-term consultants in PAHO to non-United Nations staff (Resolution CE143.R1).

Closing of the Session

23. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the President declared the 143rd Session closed.

Resolutions and Decisions

Resolutions

24. The Executive Committee adopted the following resolution at its 143rd Session:

CE143.R1 U.N. Contract Reform Implementation in PAHO

THE 143rd SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Considering those Staff Rule amendments confirmed during the 140th Session of the Executive Committee (CE140.R14) related to the reform of PAHO's contractual mechanisms, for which implementation is pending approval by the Executive Committee;

Acknowledging that consultants within the majority of U.N. agencies are not U.N. staff members and that the issue of consultants' status is not part of the U.N. reform contractual framework;

Acknowledging the need to reduce the administrative burden associated with the management of short-term consultant contracts in PAHO; and

Recognizing the need for uniformity of conditions of employment of consultants of the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization,

RESOLVES:

To authorize the Director to implement, with effect from 1 January 2009, those Staff Rule amendments which were confirmed during the 140th Session of the Executive Committee that change the status of short-term consultants in PAHO to non-U.N. staff.

(Single plenary meeting, 3 October 2008)

Decisions

25. The following are the decisions taken by the Executive Committee in the course of the 143rd Session:

CE143(D1) Election of Officers

Pursuant to Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, the Committee elected the following Members to serve as officers for the period from October 2008 to October 2009:

President:	Uruguay
Vice President:	Suriname
Rapporteur:	Mexico

(Single plenary meeting, 3 October 2008)

CE143(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 CE143/1).

(Single plenary meeting, 3 October 2008)

CE143(D3) Election of One Member to the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

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

(Single plenary meeting, 3 October 2008)

CE143(D4) Dates and Proposed Topics for the Third Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

The Committee decided that the Third Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration would be held from 11 to 13 March 2009. The Committee agreed that the Secretariat would draw up the provisional agenda and circulate it to Committee members by 10 November 2009, taking into account any input received from and items proposed by Member States.

(Single plenary meeting, 3 October 2008)

CE143(D5) Dates and Proposed Topics for the 144th Session of the Executive Committee

Pursuant to Article 17.A of the PAHO Constitution, the Committee set the dates for its first regular session in the year 2009, the 144th Session, to be held from 22 to 26 June 2009. The Committee agreed that the Secretariat would draw up the provisional agenda and circulate it to Committee members by 10 November 2008, taking into account any input received from and items proposed by Member States.

(Single plenary meeting, 3 October 2008)

CE143(D6) Dates of the 49th Directing Council, 61st Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

Pursuant to Article 12.A of the PAHO Constitution and Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council, the Committee authorized the Director to convene the 49th Directing Council, 61st Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, in Washington, D.C., from 28 September to 2 October 2009.

(Single plenary meeting, 3 October 2008)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the President of the Executive Committee and the Secretary *ex officio*, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, sign the present Final Report in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

DONE in Washington, D.C., United States of America, on this third day of October in the year two thousand eight. The Secretary shall deposit the original texts in the archives of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and shall send copies thereof to the Member States of the Organization.

María Julia Muñoz
Delegate of Uruguay
President of the 143rd Session
of the Executive Committee

Mirta Roses Periago
Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau
Secretary *ex officio* of the 143rd 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

2.2 Adoption of the Agenda

3. Subcommittee 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 Chile

4. Governing Body Matters

4.1 Dates and Proposed Topics for the 3rd Session of the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

4.2 Dates and Proposed Topics for the 144th Session of the Executive Committee

4.3 Dates of the 49th Directing Council, 61st Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

5. Personnel Matters

5.1 UN Contract Reform Implementation in PAHO

6. Other Matters

7. Closure of the Session