



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



47th DIRECTING COUNCIL **58th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

Washington, D.C., USA, 25-29 September 2006

Provisional Agenda Item 2.7

CD47/4 (Eng.)

31 July 2006

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

IMPROVEMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL¹

1. As a result of the recommendations of the Working Group of the Executive Committee on Streamlining the Governance Mechanisms of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Executive Committee at its 138th Session recommended a resolution to the Directing Council proposing modifications to Rules 2, 9, 10, 12, 23, 33, and 40 of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council intended to improve the working methods of the Governing Bodies.
2. The proposed modification to Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council is intended to reflect the Organization's practice whereby the notice of convocation sent by the Secretariat to the Member States 60 days prior to the opening of a Council session is sent together with the provisional agenda approved by the Executive Committee.
3. Rule 9 would be modified in order to establish new requirements for more timely posting of background documents in advance of the meetings of the Governing Bodies (6 weeks instead of 30 days).
4. The proposed modifications to Rules 10 and 12 relate to the role of the General Committee in adjusting the provisional agenda of the Directing Council and the circumstances under which these changes can be made.
5. Rule 23 relating to the role of the Rapporteur would be modified in order to reflect the fact that not all proposed resolutions need to be drafted by the Rapporteur.

¹ The corresponding Rules of Procedure of the Pan American Sanitary Conference and Executive Committee will also be amended.

6. In accordance with Rule 33 of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council, the General Committee decides the place and time of all of the meetings, determines the order of the day, and fixes the time of adjournment. The proposed modification to Rule 33 expands the scope of the Committee's role by adding additional responsibilities related to the handling of proposed agenda items received by the Secretariat in the interim period between the dispatch of the approved provisional agenda by the Secretariat, and the opening of the session, and includes responsibilities related to the possible deferment of any agenda item to a future Council session.

7. The proposed modification to Rule 40 specifies the time for the introduction and consideration of resolutions.

Action by the Directing Council

8. The Directing Council is invited to consider the annexed resolution proposed by the Executive Committee.

Annex



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138th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 19-23 June 2006

CD47/4 (Eng.)
Annex

RESOLUTION

CE138.R22

IMPROVEMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL

THE 138th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having considered the recommendations of the Working Group on Streamlining the Governance Mechanisms of PAHO, established by Decision CE137(D5), regarding the improvement of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council;

Acknowledging the need to provide Member States and the Director more time to read, revise and present resolutions, while taking into consideration discussions before and during the meetings of the Governing Bodies; and

Acknowledging the need to provide Member States with more succinct, precise, and timely documents,

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the 47th Directing Council the adoption of the following resolution:

THE 47TH DIRECTING COUNCIL

Having considered the recommendations contained in Document CD47/4,

RESOLVES:

To amend its Rules of Procedure to read as follows:

Rule 2

Notices of convocation together with the provisional agenda shall be sent to all Members, Associate Members, and Observer States not less than 60 days before the date fixed for the opening of a session, except in extraordinary circumstances.

Rule 33

The General Committee shall:

- (a) decide the time and place of all meetings;
- (b) determine the order of the day of each meeting;
- (c) recommend measures to be taken regarding any proposed agenda item submitted after the provisional agenda has been dispatched pursuant to Rule 2, and prior to the adoption of the agenda pursuant to Rule 10;
- (d) propose the deferment of any agenda item to a future Council session;
- (e) fix the date of the adjournment;
- (f) otherwise facilitate the orderly dispatch of the business of the Council.

Rule 9

All working documents relating thereto shall be sent to the Members, Associate Members, and Observer States at least 6 weeks prior to the opening of the session. Such documents shall be concise; any additional information should be attached as an Annex.

Rule 10

The Council shall adopt its own agenda and, in so doing, may make such additions or modifications to the provisional agenda as it may wish, in accordance with these Rules and as recommended by the General Committee.

Rule 12

Except in extraordinary circumstances, a proposal for inclusion of an item in the provisional agenda or agenda shall be accompanied by a working document prepared by the proposer, to serve as a basis for discussion.

Rule 23

The Rapporteur shall be responsible for presenting and drafting, as necessary, proposed resolutions in light of the deliberations of the Council.

Rule 40

Members and Associate Members may propose and the Secretary ex officio may recommend resolutions, amendments, and motions.

Resolutions shall be introduced in writing and shall be handed to the Secretary ex officio, who shall circulate copies to the delegates within 12 hours. Amendments which introduce significant changes in a resolution shall also be submitted in writing. No resolution or significant amendment shall be discussed or put to the vote unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegates at least 24 hours prior to its discussion. Under special circumstances, the President may permit the discussion and consideration of such resolutions or amendments even though they have not been circulated previously.

Proposals shall be voted on in the order in which they are presented except when the Council decides to the contrary. Parts of a proposal or an amendment shall be voted on separately if any delegate so requests.

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