



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



28th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE **64th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

Washington, D.C., USA, 17-21 September 2012

Provisional Agenda Item 3.3

CSP28/3 (Eng.)

20 July 2012

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU AND NOMINATION OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION FOR THE AMERICAS

Introduction

1. Article 4, paragraph E, of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) provides that: “The Conference shall elect the Director of the Bureau in accordance with Article 21, paragraph A, of the Constitution.” In turn, Article 21, paragraph A of the Constitution of PAHO, prescribes that: “The Bureau shall have a Director elected at the Conference by the vote of a majority of the Governments of the Organization. The Director shall hold office for a period of five years, and may not be reelected more than once.”

2. In accordance with Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure of the Pan American Sanitary Conference (the Conference), the name of the person elected as Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB) shall be communicated to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO) so that it can appoint that person as Regional Director for the Americas of WHO. Rule 57 specifically states that: “Acting as Regional Committee of the World Health Organization, and in conformity with Articles 49 and 52 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, the Conference shall submit to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization the name of the person so elected, for appointment as Regional Director.”

3. In accordance with the above provisions, in 2007 Dr. Mirta Roses Periago was elected Director of PASB and appointed Regional Director for the Americas of WHO for a second term of five years, beginning on 1 February 2008 and ending on 31 January 2013. It is therefore incumbent upon the 28th Pan American Sanitary Conference to elect a new Director of PASB for a period of five years, beginning on 1 February 2013 and

ending on 31 January 2018. The name of the person so elected will be submitted to WHO for appointment as Regional Director of WHO.

Election Process

4. The process for the election of the Director of PASB is described in Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, as amended by the Directing Council in Resolution CD47.R4 (2006):

The Conference shall elect the Director by secret ballot, in conformity with Article 21, paragraph A, of the Constitution and the Rules Governing the Election Process for the Position of Director, as approved by the Directing Council. The election process shall begin at least six months prior to the date fixed for the opening session of the Conference or by 1 March, which ever comes first, with a notification from the President of the Executive Committee to the Members, [Participating States,] and Associate Members, inviting nominations for the post of Director to be submitted to the President of the Executive Committee. Such notification shall include a copy of the Rules Governing the Election Process for the Position of Director.

Each Member, [Participating State,] and Associate Member may submit the name of only one national from a country within the Region as a candidate for the Position of Director in accordance with the referenced Rules Governing the Election Process for the Position of Director. The nomination will be sent in a sealed, confidential envelope addressed to the President of the Executive Committee, c/o Legal Counsel, Pan American Health Organization, Washington, D.C., at least four months prior to the opening session of the Conference or by 1 May, which ever comes first, after which time the nomination period shall be closed. All nominations received shall be compiled by the Bureau, translated into the four official languages of the Organization, and forwarded by the President of the Executive Committee to the Members, [Participating States,] and Associate Members at least three months prior to the opening session of the Conference or by 1 June, which ever comes first.

In accordance with the Rules Governing the Election Process for the Position of Director, the President of the Executive Committee shall invite nominated candidates to make a presentation to all Members, [Participating States,] and Associate Members wishing to attend a Candidates' Forum to be held on the margins of the Executive Committee session preceding the session of the Conference.

5. In accordance with the above Rule 56 and the Rules Governing the Election Process for the Position of Director, on 24 February 2012, the Members States, Participating States, and Associate Members of PAHO were invited to submit nominations for the position of Director to the President of the Executive Committee by

no later than 1 May 2012. By way of Note Verbale dated 30 May 2012 the President of the Executive Committee forwarded to the Member States, Participating States, and Associate Members the names and Curricula Vitae of five candidates who were nominated by their respective governments within the prescribed deadlines, namely: Dr. Caroline Judith Chang Campos (Ecuador); Dr. Carissa Faustina Etienne (Dominica); Dr. Socorro Gross Galiano (Costa Rica); Dr. Maria Julia Muñoz Melo (Uruguay); and Dr. Oscar Raul Ugarte Ubilluz (Peru). On 31 May 2012 the President of the Executive Committee convened the Candidates' Forum, as mandated by the above referenced Rules, to take place on 22 June 2012 following the closure of the 150th Session of the Executive Committee. The Forum was widely attended by PAHO Member States, Participating States, and Associate Members at Headquarters in Washington, D.C., as well as by other Members that participated virtually via PASB's teleconference services.

Voting Procedures

6. In accordance with Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Director shall be elected by secret ballot from among the candidates nominated pursuant to the Rules Governing the Election Process for the Position of Director.

7. The required majority in the case of the election of the Director of PASB is established in Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, which states that a "majority" means any number of votes greater than half the number of the Members of the Organization." There being 38 Members, the required "majority" for the election of the new Director of the PASB is thus any number of votes greater than 19, that is, 20 or more votes.

8. Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference further stipulates that:

If in the first two ballots no person receives the majority required, two further ballots restricted to the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes in the second of the unrestricted ballots shall then be taken. If no candidate receives the majority required, two unrestricted and two restricted ballots shall be taken alternately until a candidate is elected.

Action by the Pan American Sanitary Conference

9. It is incumbent upon the Conference to elect a new Director of PASB in accordance with the applicable constitutional provisions. Once a candidate has received the majority required to be elected as Director of PASB, the Conference may wish to adopt the attached proposed Resolution (Annex A).

Annex



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PROPOSED RESOLUTION

ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU AND NOMINATION OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION FOR THE AMERICAS

THE 28th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,

Bearing in mind Articles 4.E and 21.A of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization, which provide that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall have a Director elected at the Conference by the vote of a majority of the Members of the Organization;

Bearing in mind Article 4 of the Agreement between the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization and Article 52 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, which establish the procedure for the appointment of Regional Directors of the World Health Organization; and

Satisfied that the election of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau has been held in accordance with the established rules and procedures,

RESOLVES:

1. To declare _____ elected Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau for a period of five years to begin 1 February 2013 and ending on 31 January 2018.

2. To submit to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization the name of _____ for appointment as Regional Director for the Americas of the World Health Organization for the same period.

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