



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



43rd DIRECTING COUNCIL
53rd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 24-28 September 2001

Provisional Agenda Item 3.4

CD43/29 (Eng.)
22 August 2001
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**PROCESS FOR THE ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU**

(Proposed by the Government of Mexico to the 43rd Directing Council)

In accordance with Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council, the Delegation of Mexico presents the following working document:

**Proposed Procedures for the Process of Electing the Director of the
Pan American Sanitary Bureau**

Most countries in the Americas have agreed on the need to strengthen democratic procedures in the region as a fundamental condition to achieve equity and development. In accordance to this mandate, democratic values should prevail in international organizations. Therefore, it is necessary to promote electoral mechanisms based on the following rules:

1. **Member States should guide the electoral process.** This in order to comply with the PAHO Constitution, which determines that the electoral process corresponds to the countries.
2. **Equity in the conditions of the electoral contest.** Both internal and external candidates should compete with the same opportunities. Among other things candidates should pledge not to use PAHO resources to promote their candidacies.

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3. **Transparent platform presentation to guarantee accountability.** This means that the candidates should put forward their programs for government analysis in open sessions that may provide the electorate with elements for a reasoned vote. It is proposed that the candidates present their platforms during the 130th Session of the Executive Committee in June 2002.

4. **Universal and secret vote.** The election should take place during the ordinary meeting of the Pan American Sanitary Conference in September 2002, according to the Internal Regulations of the Pan American Health Organization.

The proposed mechanism will allow an open dialogue that provides a vision for the future of the Pan American Health Organization, enabling it to face the challenges of international public health.