World Health Organization

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Ref.: C.L.50.2017

The Director-General of the World Health Organization has the honour to communicate to Member States and Associate Members of the Organization, in accordance with Rules 5 and 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the provisional agenda, and annotated provisional agenda for the 142nd session of the Executive Board, which will be convened on Monday, 22 January 2018, at 09:30, at the Organization's headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland. The session will close no later than Saturday, 27 January 2018.

In line with ongoing efforts to streamline the registration process, online registration is required for the Executive Board. Registration can be initiated as of **18 December 2017** by going to the following link: http://extranet.who.int/bpmext/meetingregistration.aspx, using the following username: ebuser, and password: Hamiki28.

Instructions for online registration are available for downloading from the Governance website (http://www.who.int/governance/registration/en/index.html).

In accordance with resolution WHA49.9 (May 1996), and to support the aim of achievement of SDG 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), the Director-General invites Member States to consider that gender balance be applied to their delegations.

Documents for the 142nd session of the Executive Board can be accessed on the Internet through the WHO website (http://www.who.int/gb/), as they become available, and practical information for delegates is attached.

GENEVA, 8 November 2017

ENCLS: Documents EB142/1, EB142/1 (annotated) and EB142/ENCL./1.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Online registration is required for both the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly and the online registration system will be available as of **18 December 2017.**

Before each meeting, an invitation will be sent to Member States indicating a link to access the electronic Governing Bodies Meeting Registration System in order to register one Focal Point at the Permanent Mission in Geneva, who will be responsible for registering the delegation. Member States without a Permanent Mission in Geneva should designate a Focal Point in the capital. The same process will apply to all categories of invited participants (the United Nations, Observers, Intergovernmental Organizations and non-State actors in official relations with WHO).

Once a Focal Point has been entered into the registration system, he/she will receive by email a unique username and password, and the link to access the registration system.

The Focal Point will register and submit the names of the delegates and attach a note verbale containing the composition of the delegation. **As of January 2015, for security reasons, all delegates are required to wear photo ID badges in order to access the meeting room. For this reason, during the online registration process, the Focal Point will be asked to upload a passport style photograph of each member of the delegation.**

Guidance on the nature of the image required, and brief instructions on how to upload and resize an existing image you may have, are both available on the WHO website: http://www.who.int/governance/en/.

The WHO Office of Governing Bodies will verify the information received from the Focal Point, which will then be submitted into the registration system to generate both meeting badges and the List of Participants.

VISAS

Attention is drawn to the strict provisions in force regarding entry into Switzerland – those not having the required visa will be refused entry.

As of 13 December 2008, Switzerland has applied the Schengen visa regulations. Therefore, certain nationalities travelling to WHO headquarters to participate in meetings will require a Schengen visa in order to enter Switzerland. Since that date, it is no longer sufficient for a participant to present the invitation letter to obtain a visa. A visa support letter signed by one of the recognized WHO/HQ signatories is now required. Furthermore, WHO has been advised that the visa procedure will be more rigorous and **may take up to 21 days**.

Participants requiring an entry visa must obtain it from the Swiss consulate or diplomatic mission responsible for the necessary arrangements in their country of residence.

Member States requiring the assistance of WHO to obtain a Swiss Schengen visa are kindly invited to send an email with the following information: the last name, first name, title, institution, date and place of birth, passport number, expiry date, date and place of issuance to visagbs@who.int in order that action can be taken as soon as possible.

World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE BOARD
142nd session
Geneva, 22–27 January 2018

EB142/1 (annotated)
8 November 2017

Provisional agenda (annotated)

1. Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda

2. Dialogue with the Director-General

3. Strategic priority matters

3.1 Draft thirteenth general programme of work 2019–2023

The Director-General will present for the Board's consideration the draft thirteenth general programme of work 2019–2023. The draft general programme of work is fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals. It offers a statement of vision, mission and priorities for WHO, as well as clear strategic priorities, strategic shifts and organizational shifts. It is also in harmony with the Director-General's agenda for change and reflects the shifts in WHO's methods of work that will be required to support that change.

3.2 WHO reform

The Director-General will submit a series of reports on WHO reform. These will include a report providing proposals to: improve the efficiency of the Board and its strategic role; address interpretational ambiguities and gaps in the process for the inclusion of items on the Health Assembly's provisional agenda; and address further ambiguities, gaps and other shortcomings in the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Bodies. The Board will be invited to consider these proposals with a view to either amending or recommending amendments to the Rules of Procedure, as necessary. Further reports will provide information on: the Director-General's transformation agenda; the strategy and implementation plan for value for money in WHO; and the evaluation of the Officers of the Board of their experience in using the criteria and prioritization tool in respect of proposals for additional agenda items.

3.3 Public health preparedness and response

In response to resolution EBSS3.R1 (2015) and decision WHA68(10) (2015), this report will provide: (a) an update on all Public Health Emergencies of International Concern, WHO Grade 3 and United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee Level 3 emergencies in which WHO took action; (b) a description of the work WHO is undertaking at global, regional and country levels to improve coordination during health emergencies; and (c) an update on the progress made to improve research and development for potentially epidemic diseases.

In line with decision WHA70(11) (2017), the Director-General will submit for the Board's consideration, a draft five-year global strategic plan to improve public health preparedness and response, which has been shaped by Member States' comments through the following processes: the WHO regional committee meetings held in 2017; a web-based consultation; and a face-to-face consultation undertaken with the Geneva-based missions. The draft plan comprises guiding principles, three pillars for public health preparedness and response and strategic orientations for sustained implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).

multisectoral response" be amended to "Preparation for the United Nations High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Ending Tuberculosis", to be held in 2018, thereby broadening the scope of the agenda item.

- ***to defer** the item on "Global action on patient safety" proposed by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland **to a future session of the Executive Board**, following discussion of "World health days" at a future session of the Board as well as conclusion of the process to approve the Thirteenth General Programme of Work (GPW) by the Seventy-first World Health Assembly, since patient safety would be expected to be an important element of discussions on the GPW in relation to universal health coverage.*

- ***to defer** the item on "Engagement framework for private sector in health care delivery towards universal health coverage" proposed by the Government of the Philippines, **to a future session of the Executive Board**, pending the outcome of the ongoing work and approval of the Thirteenth General Programme of Work.*

- ***not including** on the provisional agenda of the **142nd session of the Executive Board** the item on workers' health proposed by the Governments of Sri Lanka and the United Republic of Tanzania under proposals entitled, respectively, "Follow-up of resolution WHA60.26 (2007) Workers' Health: Global Plan of Action in the context of the SDG" and "Workers' Health: Follow-up of the WHO global plan of action beyond 2008–2017", noting that a progress report on implementation of the global plan of action on workers' health 2008–2017 would be presented to all Member States at the Seventy-first World Health Assembly in 2018 in accordance with WHA60.26.*

- ***not including** on the provisional agenda of the **142nd session of the Executive Board** the item on "Accelerated action for global drowning prevention" proposed by the Government of Fiji and drawing the attention of the Director-General to the need to enhance advocacy at country level in this area and raise awareness of existing guidance on prevention of drowning.*

- ***not including** on the provisional agenda of the **142nd session of the Executive Board** the item on World Chagas Disease Day proposed by the Government of Brazil noting concern about a proliferation of specialized health "days" and the need for a comprehensive consideration by Member States of the costs and benefits of such "days". The officers considered it appropriate to include such a consideration at a future session of the Board under Managerial, administrative and governance issues, and requested the Secretariat to prepare an analysis of the matter, including a mapping of world days/weeks and an evaluation of their effectiveness.*

- ***not including** on the provisional agenda of the 142nd session of the Executive Board the item on "establishment of a World Food Safety Day", based on the same concern. However, noting the conclusion of the Codex Alimentarius Commission on the establishment of a World Food Safety Day and FAO resolution 11/2017 on observance of World Food Safety Day, the Officers of the Executive Board recommended that the Director-General send an official communication to the Director-General of FAO supporting the transmission of that FAO resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.*

- ***not including** on the provisional agenda of the **142nd session of the Executive Board** the item on "Role of regional cooperation in the regulatory reforms for NCD prevention and control" proposed by the Government of the Philippines, given that noncommunicable diseases was already on the agenda.*

- ***not including** on the provisional agenda of the **142nd session of the Executive Board** the item on "Health and human resources" proposed by the Government of the Philippines as the issue has been discussed recently under Working for Health: a five-year action plan for health employment and inclusive economic growth (2017–2021) adopted in May 2017 in resolution WHA70.6, that discussions will continue at the 4th Global Forum on Human Resources for Health, in November 2017, and as the proposal has a regional, not global focus; and invite the Members of the Regional Committee for the*

Western Pacific to consider, if appropriate, including this item in the agenda of their next regional committee meeting.

Other items

The Officers of the Board noted that at their previous meeting they had proposed that Polio transition planning be included in the agenda as a strategic priority issue and that polio eradication be moved to the agenda of the Seventy-first World Health Assembly. However, they agreed to the proposal of the Secretariat to include the ***report on polio eradication****, which had already been prepared, as a document for information.*

They further recommended that the existing item on "Preparation for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of NCDs", to be held in 2018, should be considered under Strategic priority matters.

Next steps

In response to the request of the Officers of the Board, the Director for Governing Bodies confirmed that guidance materials would be developed to help Member States prepare future proposals for additional agenda items in a more consistent manner. Such guidance should include high-level comments from WHO on the proposals, rather than just comments from the concerned technical programme; these should include whether the issue has been discussed before, existing resolutions/decisions, and the impact on WHO from a resource perspective.

In accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure, where the Director-General and the Officers found it necessary to recommend the deferral or exclusion of proposals received for the draft provisional agenda of the 142nd session of the Board, an explanation for such recommendation, would be reflected in the annotated provisional agenda. In accordance with decision EB134(3) (2014) on WHO reform: methods of work of the governing bodies, the explanatory memoranda and supporting statements would be made available on the WHO web-based platform to all Member States and Associate Members.

The Director-General informed the Officers of the Board that the annotated provisional agenda for the 142nd session of the Executive Board as well as the provisional agenda showing the document numbers, would be sent out to all Member States with the convocation letter.

Use of the prioritization tool

The preliminary outcome of the trial scoring of the proposals for additional agenda items was shared with the Officers of the Board. (The final outcome, including the scores of the one officer not able to be present at the meeting, was shared with the Officers shortly after the meeting.) It was noted that there was general concordance with the outcome of the discussion on the provisional agenda. Noting that the final totals would be included in the report of the Secretariat to the Executive Board on the trial, the Officers recommended that the scores be represented as percentages rather than totals.

The Officers made a number of preliminary comments on their experience in use of the tool. They noted the utility of a scoring system in principle, but found challenges in applying it as a purely quantitative measure. It was a complex tool with a number of negative indicators that could confuse scoring. Certain factors seemed repetitive, and the wide and varying range of possible scores for each factor complicated the analysis. In sum, and as would be elaborated fully in their report, the Officers felt a simplified system, with fewer criteria, would better assist future officers. The Officers suggested that the tool be reviewed and revised by the WHO evaluation department, and noted this recommendation would be included in their report.

The Chair invited the Officers to send their detailed comments on use of the tool, including its various sections, to the Secretariat and suggested the Officers meet on the margins of the special session of the Executive Board in November to consider their report on this matter so that it may be submitted to the Board in January 2018.

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World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE BOARD
142nd session
Geneva, 22–27 January 2018

EB142/1
8 November 2017

Provisional agenda

1. **Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda**

   Documents EB142/1 and EB142/1 (annotated)

2. **Dialogue with the Director-General**

   Document EB142/2

3. **Strategic priority matters**

   3.1 Draft thirteenth general programme of work 2019–2023

   Document EB142/3

   3.2 WHO reform

   Documents EB142/4, EB142/5, EB142/6 and EB142/7

   3.3 Public health preparedness and response

   Documents EB142/8, EB142/9 and EB142/10

   3.4 Polio transition planning

   Document EB142/11

   3.5 Health, environment and climate change

   Document EB142/12

   3.6 Addressing the global shortage of, and access to, medicines and vaccines

   Document EB142/13

   3.7 Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property

   Document EB142/14

3.8 Preparation for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, to be held in 2018

Documents EB142/15 and EB142/15 Add.1

3.9 Preparation for a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on ending tuberculosis

Document EB142/16

4. Other technical matters

4.1 Global snakebite burden

Document EB142/17

4.2 Physical activity for health

Document EB142/18

4.3 Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016–2030): early childhood development

Document EB142/19

4.4 mHealth

Document EB142/20

4.5 Improving access to assistive technology

Document EB142/21

4.6 Maternal, infant and young child nutrition

- Comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition: biennial report

Document EB142/22

- Safeguarding against possible conflicts of interest in nutrition programmes

Document EB142/23

5. Other managerial, administrative and governance matters

5.1 Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework for the sharing of influenza viruses and access to vaccines and other benefits

Document EB142/24

5.2 Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board

Document EB142/25

5.3 Evaluation of the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization

Document EB142/26

5.4 Evaluation: update and proposed workplan for 2018–2019

Document EB142/27

5.5 Engagement with non-State actors

Documents EB142/28 and EB142/29

5.6 Reports of committees of the Executive Board

- Foundations and awards

Document EB142/30

5.7 Future meetings of the governing bodies

- Provisional agenda of the Seventy-first World Health Assembly

Document EB142/31

- Date and place of the 143rd session of the Executive Board

Document EB142/32

5.8 Appointment of the Regional Director for the Americas

Document EB142/33

5.9 Statement by the representative of the WHO staff associations and report of the ombudsmen

- Statement by the representative of the WHO staff associations

Document EB142/INF./1

- Report of the ombudsmen

Document EB142/INF./2

5.10 Amendments to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules [if any]

6. Matters for information

6.1 Report of the regional committees to the Executive Board

Document EB142/34

6.2 Global vaccine action plan

Document EB142/35

6.3 Reports of advisory bodies

- Expert committees and study groups

Document EB142/36

6.4 Eradication of poliomyelitis

Document EB142/37

7. Closure of the session

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