



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



152nd SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Special Session, 29 April 2013

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RESOLUTION

CE152.SS.R1

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS BY WHO TO THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS

THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE 152nd SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having considered the background document *Allocation of Funds by WHO to the Region of the Americas* (Document CE152/SS/2);

Mindful of the fact that the Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) does not meet until September 2013 and that input is urgently needed for the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly of May 2013;

Noting the need for an open and interactive discussion of the allocation of budget envelopes and resources at both global and regional levels, and

Considering the complex health challenges we face going forward and the need to work responsibly and with common strategies that promote solidarity among the regions,

RESOLVES:

To request that the following statement be presented to the Eighteenth Meeting of the WHO Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board (PBAC) and to the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly.

STATEMENT BY THE MEMBER STATES OF THE AMERICAS REGARDING WHO BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS TO THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS

1. For several biennia the Member States of the Region of the Americas have noted a continuous reduction in the allocation of both budget envelopes and financial resources to the Region of the Americas by the World Health Organization (WHO). Concern was expressed at the Sixty-fourth World Health Assembly in 2011 through a Manifesto presented by the Member States of the Americas advocating for a fair share of budget allocation to the Region. The concern was not heeded. The Regional Office of WHO for the Americas (AMRO) is consistently funded under 50% of the budgeted voluntary contributions.
2. For the 2014-2015 biennium, the WHO Secretariat has proposed a base program budget envelope of 5.4%¹ for AMRO. While the Secretariat has declared in the *Proposed Programme Budget 2014-2015*² that the Strategic Resource Allocation (SRA) mechanism approved in 2006³ is not being used, it is nonetheless worth remembering that this model—an objective means for budget allocation based on needs-based criteria—recommended a budget allocation to AMRO of 6.3% to 7.7%. The lack of information on the criteria used to allocate resources for the 2014-2015 biennium is a shared concern of the Member States of the Americas. Therefore, until a new means for global budget allocation is agreed by the Executive Board, the SRA mechanism is the best objective basis for discussion.
3. PAHO is committed to transparency and accountability, and presents its Strategic Plan and Program and Budget to its Governing Bodies and publishes them on its web pages.
4. The Region of the Americas acknowledges that WHO endeavors to present a realistic budget that reflects the functions of all levels of WHO and the health priorities of the countries. However, the Region of the Americas expresses its concern that the implementation of past budgets should not be the only factor considered in budget allocation, given that the allocated resources were never fully provided to the Region.
5. Guided by a clear commitment to transparency and accountability, the Member States of the Americas hereby request that the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly agree to provide the following directions to the WHO Secretariat:

¹ This figure (5.4%) corresponds to the WHO base program budget envelope for AMRO (not including the Outbreak and Crisis Response [OCR] funds which are conditional on the occurrence of an outbreak or crisis). The WHO total budget allocation for AMRO (including the OCR funds) is 4.4%.

² WHA Document A66/7.

³ WHO Document EB118/7.1

- (a) That while it is acknowledged that allocation of 4.4% of WHO's 2014-2015 total budget to AMRO is less than optimal, such an allocation is acceptable for this biennium only, on the condition that actual funding to fill this envelope includes 100% funding of the assessed contribution portion and, if feasible, at least 75% funding of the voluntary contribution portion, on the principle of equitable treatment for all regions.
- (b) The Region of the Americas requests that the Secretariat provide the criteria by which budgets are allocated and resources are distributed to WHO Headquarters and the regional offices.
- (c) The WHO Secretariat should work with Member States with regard to a process for a new strategic allocation model for WHO resources starting with the 2016-2017 biennium.

(Adopted at the Single Plenary, 29 April 2013)