



**World Health  
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Europe**

**Regional Committee for Europe**  
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## **Technical discussion on WHO reform for a healthy future**

**Tuesday 13 September 2011 at 13:00–14:30**

### **Programme**

<b>13:00</b>	Mr Arun Nanda, WHO Secretariat	<b>Overview of WHO reform</b> Mr Nanda will provide an overview of WHO reform, focusing on its main content and the process so far.
<b>13:15</b>	Mr Helge Larsen, WHO Secretariat	<b>Agenda item 8: Planned format and expected outcome</b> Mr Larsen will present the planned format for consideration of agenda item 8: WHO reform, scheduled to be taken up by the Regional Committee at its meeting from 09:00 to 12:30, on Wednesday 14 September 2011.  The working groups, their content and expected outcome (as input to the special session of the Executive Board, scheduled for 1–3 November 2011) will also be presented.
<b>13:30</b>	Discussion	<b>Facilitated discussion</b> Participants will have an opportunity to make comments, ask questions and provide advice on the scope and developments of the WHO reform agenda.  Resource persons: A. Nanda, H. Larsen, I. Hollo, C. Profili, WHO Secretariat.
<b>14:30</b>	Closure	<b>End of technical briefing</b>

## **1. Basic objectives of WHO reform**

The reform process currently under development in WHO has been framed with the following three basic objectives in mind:

- (a) to refocus the core business of the Organization, in order to address the key health challenges facing countries, regions and the world in the twenty-first century;
- (b) to strengthen its governance – both internal and in terms of its role as the “directing and coordinating authority on international health” – so that it can respond better to global, regional and national public health challenges,
- (c) to reform the management and financing of WHO, in order to address those challenges more effectively.

## **2. Format for the discussion at the Regional Committee**

European Member States have been at the forefront in shaping the WHO reform agenda. It is therefore expected that the discussion at the present session of the Regional Committee will form an essential part of the advice and guidance to the Regional Director and the Director-General in preparation for the special session of the Executive Board in November 2011 that will be dedicated to the reforms.

To ensure that the process is truly driven by Member States, the Regional Director is proposing that the Regional Committee considers agenda item 8: “WHO reform for a healthy future” through a mix of plenary discussions and thematic discussions in three working groups.

In the opening plenary, the Regional Director will present an overview of the reform process and the issues set out in the three concept papers on governance, independent evaluation and the World Health Forum.

After the opening plenary, three working groups are being proposed on Governance, Core business and key aspects of the managerial reform agenda.

For each of the groups, facilitators have been proposed, drawn from serving members of the Executive Board and of the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee (SCRC), as well as independent “resource persons” assigned to each group to support the discussion and help prepare the reporting back to the closing plenary session.