

**Regional Committee for Europe**  
Sixty-second session

EUR/RC62/R3

**Malta, 10–13 September 2012**

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## **Resolution**

### **Draft Twelfth General Programme of Work and Proposed programme budget 2014–2015**

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015 (document EUR/RC62/16) and the regional perspective thereon (document EUR/RC62/16 Add.1), as well as the draft Twelfth General Programme of Work (EUR/RC62/17) and having taken note of the comments made in this respect by the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee;

Recognizing that the development and execution of the Twelfth General Programme of Work and its associated budgets are an essential means of advancing the WHO reform process, as mentioned in document EUR/RC62/14;

Considering that the allocation of budgets between WHO headquarters and WHO regional offices is a key element of the reform process, and that WHO regional committees should be facilitated to comment both on the overall budget envelope and on the allocation by category and major offices;

Considering that strengthening the role of the Organization at country level and the coherence between the three levels of the Organization are important issues in the reform process;

Recalling its resolution EUR/RC60/R9, in which the Regional Committee suggested a further strengthening of the mechanisms and principles used to allocate centrally managed resources among the Organization's major offices;

1. WELCOMES the efforts made by the Secretariat of WHO headquarters and of the Regional Office for Europe in aligning the draft Twelfth General Programme of Work and the Proposed programme budget 2014–2015 according to the decisions made at the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly (decision WHA65(9));
2. NOTES that the Proposed programme budget 2014–2015 contained in document EUR/RC62/16, needs to be further developed to focus on priorities and results, in order to increase the transparency of the distribution of labour among the three levels of the Organization and to clarify the outputs at these three levels;
3. ACKNOWLEDGES the good intention of the Secretariat in providing drafts of the Twelfth General Programme of Work and the Proposed programme budget 2014–2015 without budget figures but NOTES that, in the absence of detailed information, it is difficult to have an in-depth discussion on the Proposed programme budget during the Regional Committee session;
4. NOTES the strategic directions contained in document EUR/RC62/16 Add.1 and the efforts made by the Regional Director to clarify the key priority outcomes of the Regional Office in a transparent manner, as well as the idea of clarifying accountability for these outcomes during the sixty-third session of the Regional Committee, following adoption of the global programme budget;
5. URGES all Member States to continue to play a full and active role in the ongoing discussions about priorities and, when considering their contributions to WHO, to keep in mind the need for predictable and flexible financing and agreed priorities;
6. REQUESTS the Regional Director to convey to the Director-General that the Regional Committee requests:
  - (a) the Secretariat to provide more detailed drafts of the Proposed programme budget 2014–2015 and the Twelfth General Programme of Work that further clarify the strategic direction of the Organization for discussion by the governing bodies. They should focus on a limited number of priorities and suggest areas that should not be key priorities for WHO in the relevant period, together with their rationale based on the criteria adopted by the World Health Assembly;
  - (b) the Secretariat to provide further detailed information regarding the costing of outputs and allocation of budget between the five plus one categories of

programmes, in order to have well-informed discussions during the January 2013 meeting of the Executive Board's Programme, Budget and Administration Committee and before submitting the Proposed programme budget 2014–2015 and draft Twelfth General Programme of Work to the Executive Board at its 132nd session;

- (c) in order to facilitate approval of the Proposed programme budget 2014–2015, the Secretariat to provide full transparency regarding the level of resources already available and/or secured, as well as detailed information concerning the intended allocation of resources between programmes and outputs. Furthermore, the Proposed programme budget 2014–2015 should clarify areas for efficiency and cost-savings compared to the past programme budget;
- (d) that in future years regional committees be provided with the necessary data including budgets in sufficient time to allow for thorough consideration and feedback;
- (e) the Secretariat to provide greater clarity about the level at which functions are carried out within the Organization, including at regional level, and then to ensure that resources are allocated in a way that reflects this agreed division of labour, while acknowledging that normative functions rest with WHO headquarters, taking into account the needs and specificities of the individual regions.