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Other information

Venue                                                Conference Hall, Regional Office for the Western Pacific

Distribution of documents
Electronic copies of all working documents and related material are available at the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific website: http://www.wpro.who.int/about/regional_committee/69/documents/en/.
Representatives are kindly requested to collect other documents, messages and invitations daily at their designated mailboxes.

Rapporteurs meeting
The meeting will be held daily following the afternoon session at 17:15 in Room 403 (Emergency Operations Centre).

Internet access
Wireless Internet access is available throughout the Regional Office. The network name and password can be obtained from the WHO Enquiry Desk in the Conference Hall foyer.
An Internet cafe is located along the corridor of the lower lounge near the Conference Hall. For assistance, please contact IT support staff at the Internet cafe.

WHO publications
Publications related to the agenda of the Regional Committee are on display in the Conference Hall lounge and in the Regional Office bookshop. A digital publications catalogue is provided on a USB digital flash drive to all representatives.

Security
Please ensure your ID card is displayed at all times while on WHO premises.
Should you have any concerns, kindly contact the WHO Conference and Administrative Services Officer, Ms Nguyen Thi Minh Ly, at +63 2 528-9608 (landline) or +63 920-963-5457 (mobile).
There is a no smoking policy on WHO premises. Likewise, smoking is prohibited in public areas in Metro Manila.
I. PROGRAMME OF WORK (TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2018)

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II. REPORT OF MEETINGS (MONDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2018)

First meeting

**Acting Chairperson (outgoing Vice-Chairperson):** Honourable Tautai Agikimua Kaitu'u
Minister for Health and Medical Service
Solomon Islands

**Incoming Chairperson:** Honourable Sir Dr Puka Temu
Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS, Papua New Guinea

**Item 1** Opening of the session

The Acting Chairperson declared open the sixty-ninth session of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific.

**Item 2** Address by the outgoing Chairperson

The outgoing Vice-Chairperson, filling in for the outgoing Chairperson who was unable to attend this year’s session, welcomed representatives and guests to the sixty-ninth session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific. The outgoing Vice-Chairperson reviewed progress achieved since last year’s meeting in Brisbane, Australia. In particular, he highlighted achievements in areas under discussion at last year’s session, including: measles and rubella elimination; protecting children from the harmful impact of food marketing; health promotion; the triple elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, hepatitis B and syphilis; integrated financing of priority public health services; regulatory strengthening for medicines and the health workforce; and food safety. He said that he looked forward to a frank exchange of views and experiences that would help refine the Region’s collective approach to a complex range of issues.
Item 3  Election of incoming officers: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteurs

The Regional Committee elected the following:

**Chairperson:** Honourable Sir Dr Puka Temu  
Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS  
Ministry of Health and HIV/AIDS  
Papua New Guinea

**Vice-Chairperson:** Dr Lam Pin Min  
Senior Minister of State for Transport and Health  
Ministry of Health Singapore  
Singapore

**Rapporteurs:**

In English: Ms Casey Marie Broughton  
Assistant Director, Health Strategies Section  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Australia

In French: Dr Jean-Paul Grangeon  
Medical Inspector and Deputy Director of Health and Social Affairs  
New Caledonia

Item 5  Adoption of the agenda

There being no objections, the provisional agenda was adopted by the Regional Committee (WPR/RO69/1 Rev.1).

Item 6  Address by the Director-General

The Director-General highlighted progress on the global level, drawing special attention to the “triple billion” targets for universal health coverage, health emergencies and healthier populations. He noted, among other issues, the launch of a transformation project to make WHO more agile. The Director-General also noted the urgency of the issues on the agenda of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, including the Proposed Programme Budget 2010–2021, and called on delegates to take appropriate action.

The Director-General praised the Regional Director’s leadership over the past decade and said he had found his wisdom and frank advice an invaluable asset over the past 15 months. He concluded by awarding the Regional Director a WHO medal for his distinguished service to the Organization.

Item 8  Address by and Report of the Regional Director

As this year’s address was the Regional Director's final report to the Regional Committee, he took the opportunity to reflect on the broad scope of WHO work in the Region over the past decade. He noted significant progress in fighting communicable and noncommunicable diseases. He said the Region is now better prepared for health security threats, and noted significant gains in health systems strengthening and universal health coverage. He highlighted reforms that have made the regional Organization more effective and efficient in delivering results at the country level. The Regional Director thanked Member States for their hard work and support, and concluded by saying that leading WHO in the Western Pacific Region has been among his life’s greatest honours.
Following the address by the Regional Director, interventions on both agenda item 6 and agenda item 8 were made by the representatives of the following Member States (in order): Japan, Brunei Darussalam, Viet Nam, Singapore, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Australia, China, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Kiribati.

Second meeting

**Chairperson:** Honourable Sir Dr Puka Temu
Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS, Papua New Guinea

**Item 7**  Nomination of the Regional Director

The nomination process for the next Regional Director commenced in private session.

**Item 8**  Address by and Report of the Regional Director (continued)

In continuation, interventions were made by the representatives of the following Member States (in order): Mongolia, New Zealand, Cook Islands and Tuvalu.

In responding to interventions, the Director-General said the recommendations offered by the representatives would be given serious consideration by the Secretariat. Addressing the specific concerns of Pacific island countries and areas, he mentioned the new initiative for small island developing states but emphasized that climate change was a concern for all Member States. He concluded by addressing concerns on primary health care, noncommunicable diseases and antimicrobial resistance.

The Regional Director thanked the representatives for their kind comments, noting that he and the Organization had strived over the past decade to be an effective partner, providing support Member States needed to address their health priorities. He concluded by saying WHO had been more than a workplace, rather the Organization and its Member States had become a family, working together to improve health outcomes in the Region.

**Item 9**  Programme budget 2016–2017: budget performance (final report)

The Acting Director, Programme Management, introduced the final report on the performance of the Programme Budget 2016–2017. He shared the details of budget utilization by category of expenditure, as well as by expenditure category for country offices with resources of more than US$ 10 million. He also updated the Regional Committee on the results of recent performance audits. In closing, the Acting Director, Programme Management, said that the Secretariat had continued to improve controls through strengthened management, training, communication and monitoring of potential high-risk transactions in the Region.

Interventions were made by the representatives of the following Member States (in order): the Republic of Korea, the Philippines, Samoa, France, China, the United States of America, the Federated States of Micronesia, Malaysia and Japan.

The Director, Administration and Finance, thanked Member States for their kind words regarding WHO’s performance in the Region. He also responded to Member State concerns regarding compliance, accountability and transparency in WHO operations. He noted improvements in those areas, as well as gender balance and
recruitment, and commented that audit recommendations had helped sharpen focus to constantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of WHO in the Region.

The Acting Director, Programme Management, added that WHO was making special efforts to address any underfunded programmes and that voluntary contributions appeared to be trending upwards so far in 2018–2019.

The Chairperson noted that the Regional Committee had decided to accept the final report on the Programme Budget 2016–2017.

**Item 10  Proposed programme budget 2020–2021**

The Director of Planning, Resource Coordination and Performance Monitoring at WHO headquarters introduced the High-level Proposed Programme Budget 2020–2021 for consultation with the Regional Committee, noting that the budget is focused on major offices and the three levels of the Organization. He said the Programme Budget 2020–2021, as well as the Thirteenth General Programme of Work (GPW13), support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. He concluded by presenting highlights of the High-level Proposed Programme Budget 2020–2021.

The Acting Director, Programme Management, briefly highlighted efforts to operationalize GPW13 in the Western Pacific Region through, among other means, facilitated consultations with Member States. He outlined the results of the exercise by Member States to prioritize their top 10 desired health outcomes, noting that essential health services was cited most frequently by Member States. In addition, he noted the 15 most frequently selected GPW13 targets by Member States, with increased capacity to implement the International Health Regulations and health emergency preparedness topping the list.

Interventions were made by the representatives of the following Member States (in order): China, Australia, the Philippines, the United States of America, France, Kiribati, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Viet Nam, New Zealand, Mongolia and Tonga.

The Director of Planning, Resource Coordination and Performance Monitoring responded to Member State concerns regarding the need for greater detail in the budget, explaining that the document was high level at this point, focused on major offices and the three levels of the Organization. He said country prioritization exercises would provide more details on budget planning in the future.

The Director-General also addressed Member State interventions, including calls for more detail in the biennial budget and the compressed planning cycle of GPW13. He said the new impact- and outcome-based budgeting planning process would lead to improved performance by WHO, shifting the metrics of evaluation from WHO outputs to measurable improvements on the ground in Member States.

In closing, the Chairperson said that the comments and discussions will be summarized and submitted for Executive Board discussion in January.
III. OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, 10 October 2018

12:45–13:45  WHO's work in countries (Conference Hall)

Thursday, 11 October 2018

12:45–13:45  Emergency Response Exercise (Conference Hall)

Friday, 12 October 2018

12:45–13:45  Let's be active: Everyone, everywhere, everyday (Conference Hall)