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PROGRAMME BUDGET 2020–2021 UPDATE

The *Programme Budget 2020–2021* was approved by the Seventy-second World Health Assembly in May 2019. This update (see Annex) further defines the implementation of the approved programme budget in the Western Pacific Region and the operationalization of *For the Future: Towards the Healthiest and Safest Region*, which sets out WHO's work in the Western Pacific Region for the coming five years.

For the Future is the Region's plan to implement the WHO Thirteenth General Programme of Work 2019–2023 (GPW 13) and the Organization's global transformation agenda. Common focus areas outlined in *For the Future* provide overall guidance for joint efforts to address each country's health challenges by developing and implementing flagship programmes based on Member State contexts. This update includes: (1) an overview of the consultation process with Member States and partners for preparing the thematic priorities and approaches in the Region to realize the global vision of GPW 13; (2) an overall budget indication by outcomes and split by country and regional levels; and (3) an outline of the next steps.

The Regional Committee for the Western Pacific is requested to review and note the report: *Operationalizing the Programme Budget 2020–2021 in the Western Pacific Region*.

1. CURRENT SITUATION

For the Future: Towards the Healthiest and Safest Region sets out WHO's work for the coming five years in the Western Pacific Region. It is the Region's plan to implement GPW 13 and the global transformation agenda. The vision calls for action today to address health and development challenges of tomorrow to make the Western Pacific the world's healthiest and safest region.

The Seventy-second World Health Assembly in May 2019 approved the *Programme Budget 2020–2021*. The Regional Office for the Western Pacific has further defined implementation of the approved programme budget (see Annex) based on country contexts, and the priorities and concerns of Member States that informed the development of *For the Future*.

The vision of *For the Future* is based on extensive consultations with Member States, partners and WHO staff. Similar to previous biennia, the development of the programme budget for the Region was based on a prioritization process, starting at the country level and informed by the thematic priorities and operational shifts outlined in *For the Future*. The process ensures complete alignment with GPW 13 and the global transformation agenda. This updated report of the *Programme Budget 2020–2021* in the Western Pacific Region focuses on operationalizing the change agenda in the Region, as detailed in *For the Future* and in line with GPW 13.

2. ISSUES

2.1 Thematic priorities and new ways of working

For the Future highlights four priorities that Member States in the Region see as the greatest challenges that will require intensified support:

- Health security, including antimicrobial resistance;
- Noncommunicable disease (NCDs) and ageing;
- Climate change and the environment; and
- Reaching the unreached – people and communities still afflicted by infectious disease as well as high rates of maternal and infant morbidity and mortality.

These priorities are aligned with the GPW 13 global strategic priorities of promoting health (through universal health coverage), keeping the world safe (health security) and serving the vulnerable (healthier populations). Countries have also identified specific technical areas requiring

additional guidance and support, including patient safety, rehabilitation, affordable and essential surgery, rheumatic fever, food safety and occupational health. The focus areas of *For the Future* will provide overall guidance for joint efforts in countries. However, priority will also be given to addressing country-specific circumstances for which flagship programmes will also be developed and implemented based on country contexts.

2.2 Budget overview

The *Programme Budget 2020–2021* for the Western Pacific Region base segment totals US\$ 309.2 million, compared with the 2018–2019 budget of US\$ 281.3 million, representing an increase of US\$ 27.9 million, or nearly 10%. Of this increase, US\$ 24.0 million is at the country office level, and US\$ 3.9 million is at the Regional Office (Table 1). The *Programme Budget 2020–2021* reflects the strategic shift of GPW 13 towards delivering impacts at the country level and the continuing trend of increasing resources at the country level.

Table 1. Western Pacific Region Programme Budget (PB) 2020–2021, base segment only, by level of the Organization (figures in US\$ millions)

Major office	Country offices		Regional Office		Total	
	PB 2018–2019	PB 2020–2021	PB 2018–2019	PB 2020–2021	PB 2018–2019	PB 2020–2021
Western Pacific	163.7	187.7	117.6	121.5	281.3	309.2

The operationalization of the *Programme Budget 2020–2021* in the Western Pacific Region represents a move towards increasing resources at the country level, coupled with strategic investment in much-needed global and regional public health goods that work in synergy to deliver results in countries. The ambitious goals and bold strategy will need to be matched by strong commitment and new approaches for resource mobilization and financing. These are all being implemented as part of the transformation plan of the Organization.

3. ACTIONS PROPOSED

The Regional Committee for the Western Pacific is requested to review and note the report: *Operationalizing the Programme Budget 2020–2021 in the Western Pacific Region*.

