

المقررات الإجرائية DECISIONS

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

October 2023

Seventieth session

Decision No. 1 Election of officers

The Regional Committee decided to elect the following as the Officers of its 70th session:

Chair: H.E. Dr Ali Haji Adam Abubakar, Minister of Health and Human Services of Somalia

Vice-Chair: H.E. Dr Ahmed Robleh Abdilleh, Minister of Health of Djibouti

Vice-Chair: H.E. Dr Khaled Abdelghaffar, Minister of Health and Population of Egypt.

Based on rules of procedure of the Regional Committee, the Committee decided that the following should constitute the Drafting Committee:

Dr Ejlal Alalawi (Bahrain), Dr Nicknam Mohammad Houssein (Islamic Republic of Iran), Dr Riyadh Abdul Amer Al-Hilfi (Iraq), Dr Azzam ElHadi Omar Hussein (Libya).

Secretariat: Dr Rana Hajjeh, Dr Christoph Hamelmann, Dr Richard John Brennan, Dr Maha El-Adawy, Dr Asmus Hammerich, Dr Awad Mataria, Dr Arash Rashidian, Mr Tobias Boyd.

Decision No. 2 Adoption of the agenda

The Regional Committee adopted the agenda of its 70th session.

Decision No. 3 Closed meetings

In accordance with Rule 6 of its Rules of Procedure, the Regional Committee agreed that sessions identified as closed sessions in the timetable would be limited to members of the Committee and the necessary minimum Secretariat presence, with no observers, in an exception to its normal practice of open meetings.

Decision No. 4 Place and date of future sessions of the Regional Committee

The Regional Committee decided to hold its 71st session in Doha, Qatar, from 14 to 17 October 2024.

Decision No. 5 Verification of credentials

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, the Vice-Chair of the 69th session of the Regional Committee reported to the Regional Committee that the credentials submitted by the Members attending the 70th session of the Regional Committee were reviewed and found in compliance with the Committee's Rules of Procedure. The report of the Vice-Chair of the 69th session on the verification of credentials was accepted by the Regional Committee.

Decision No. 6 Terms of reference of the Programme Subcommittee of the Regional Committee

The Regional Committee, mindful of the critical role of the Programme Subcommittee not only in supporting the preparatory work for sessions of the Regional Committee, but also in other important functions such as monitoring the implementation of resolutions and decisions of the Regional Committee;

DECIDES to adopt the amended and restated terms of reference of the Programme Subcommittee of the Regional Committee annexed to this decision.

Annex 1

Amended and restated terms of reference of the Programme Subcommittee of the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean Region

1. In accordance with Rule 16 of the Regional Committee's Rules of Procedure, the Programme Subcommittee is a subsidiary body of the Regional Committee established by the latter for the study of, and to report on, any item on its agenda. Specifically, the Programme Subcommittee shall perform the following functions:
 - a. Support the preparatory work of the Regional Committee by reviewing the provisional agenda of the Regional Committee, working documents, reports, and draft resolutions and/or decisions submitted by the Regional Director.
 - b. Monitor the implementation of recommendations and decisions of the Regional Committee and advise the Regional Committee on sunsetting resolutions adopted by the Regional Committee.
 - c. Advise the Regional Director on proposals for designation of Member States on committees of governing bodies of WHO that require representation from the Eastern Mediterranean Region.
 - d. Review and make recommendations on matters related to the WHO General Programme of Work, Programme Budget, regional vision and other regional public health strategies before they are considered by the Regional Committee. Additionally, the Programme Subcommittee shall:
 - advise as to whether the proposed budget for and cost implications of draft resolutions and/or decisions are feasible within the timeframe proposed; and
 - advise as to whether an appropriate monitoring and evaluation system for draft resolutions and/or decisions has been established.
 - e. Recommend to the Regional Committee additional resources required by the Regional Office and propose mechanisms for Members to contribute additional funding for the implementation of Regional Committee resolutions and decisions.
 - f. Examine reports on implementation of the recommendations of internal and external auditors and advise the Regional Committee on any remedial action needed.
 - g. Consider and make recommendations on any other programmatic, administrative, budgetary or financial matters that the Regional Committee may deem appropriate.
 - h. Submit reports on its deliberations to the Regional Committee.

Membership and meetings

2. The Programme Subcommittee will consist of eight members selected from among Regional Committee Members, three each from among the Members of Group 2 and Group 3 countries, and two from among the Members of Group 1, as per resolution EM/RC63/R.6. Please see the table in Appendix 1.
3. Suggested Members of the Programme Subcommittee should be highly competent and experienced public health officials in senior management positions at the level of deputy minister or director of key technical programmes. Membership of the Programme Subcommittee will change on a rotating basis. The office bearers of the Regional Committee (i.e. the Chair and Vice-Chairs) may also participate as observers of Programme Subcommittee meetings or parts thereof.
4. The Programme Subcommittee will elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Rapporteur from among its members. The office bearers of the Programme Subcommittee will serve for a nonrenewable period of one year.
5. In consultation with the Chair of the Programme Subcommittee, the Regional Director may invite one or more relevant experts to attend Programme Subcommittee meetings (or parts thereof) to enhance the discussion of particular agenda item(s) or technical paper(s) being considered by the Programme Subcommittee.
6. All Members of the Programme Subcommittee will be appointed by the Regional Committee and will serve for a period of two years. In order to maintain some institutional memory of the working of the Programme Subcommittee, four members will be replaced each year following the English alphabetical order of country names within each Group.
7. The Regional Director will, in consultation with the Chair of the Programme Subcommittee, convene a meeting at least once annually for a duration ideally not exceeding three working days. The modality for holding each meeting will be discussed in advance.
8. The WHO Secretariat will provide any necessary technical and administrative support to the Programme Subcommittee.

Appendix 1 Membership of the Programme Subcommittee

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Egypt Libya Morocco Tunisia	Bahrain Iraq Kuwait Oman Qatar Saudi Arabia United Arab Emirates Yemen	Afghanistan Djibouti Islamic Republic of Iran Jordan Lebanon Pakistan Somalia Sudan Syrian Arab Republic
↓	↓	↓
Two members	Three members	Three members

Decision No. 7 Award of the State of Kuwait Prize for the Control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

The Regional Committee decided, based on the recommendation of the Foundation Committee for the State of Kuwait Prize for the Control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes in the Eastern Mediterranean, to award the State of Kuwait Prize for the Control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes in the Eastern Mediterranean Region to Dr Asem Hamzeh Mansour (Jordan) in the area of Cancer and Dr Davood Khalili (Islamic Republic of Iran) in the area of cardiovascular diseases. The Prize will be presented to the laureates during the 71st session of the Regional Committee in 2024.

The Regional Committee noted the decision of the Foundation Committee to double the amount of the award to US\$ 10 000, per laureate per disease group, to promote noncommunicable diseases research in the Region.

Decision No. 8 Award of the Down Syndrome Research Prize

The Regional Committee decided not to award the Down Syndrome Research Prize this year based on the recommendation of the Down Syndrome Research Prize Foundation.

Decision No. 9 Nomination of a Member State to the Policy and Coordination Committee of the Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction

The Regional Committee endorsed the nomination of Morocco serve on the Policy and Coordination Committee of the Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction for a four-year period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2027.