
Financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2024–2025

Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board to the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly

1. The Secretariat presented an overview of the financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2024–2025, with figures updated to the end of April 2024, as well as a report providing a summary of the operational efficiencies realized by the Secretariat.¹

2. The Committee welcomed and appreciated the reports and updated figures for the financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2024–2025. It acknowledged the good overall level of financing, including prioritizing the country level in the allocation of the increase in flexible funds. At the same time, the Committee expressed concerns that this earmarked funding was inequitably distributed across major offices and results. The Committee called for improved allocation for regional offices and underfunded strategic priorities. In that context the Committee called for a review of the strategic budget space allocation model. The Committee advocated mobilizing more flexible resources and highlighted the future potential for sustainable financing to ensure adequate funding for key priorities.

3. In response to comments and questions, the Secretariat stressed that the high level of earmarking of voluntary contributions limited its ability to redress inequities of funding. Financing levels, especially at the regional and country levels, would improve as funds continued being mobilized and distributed. The Director-General underlined the importance of the forthcoming investment round in helping to rectify the systemic deficiency of WHO's current financing mechanism.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

4. The Committee, on behalf of the Executive Board, recommended that the Health Assembly should note the reports contained in documents A77/14 and A77/15, and proposed, as guidance for the Secretariat's implementation of existing mandates, that the Secretariat should:

- (a) continue its efforts to improve resource allocation and its mechanisms, and to identify new ways to realize efficiencies as recurring savings are mainstreamed into regular operations;

¹ Documents A77/14 and A77/15, respectively.

- (b) continue to measure efficiencies as part of the end-of-biennium performance assessments, and to provide these results to Member States;
- (c) prepare concrete proposals for scenarios for future increases in assessed contributions as part of the development of future programme budgets, to be submitted for consideration by the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee at its next meeting.

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