Governing Body matters:
Review of the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 154th Session of the WHO Executive Board

The 154th Session of the WHO Executive Board will be held at WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, from 22 to 27 January 2024.

In accordance with Rule 8 of the ‘Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board’, any proposal from a Member State or Associate Member of WHO to include an item in the Agenda should reach the Director-General of the World Health Organization not later than 12 weeks after circulation of the Draft Provisional Agenda or 10 weeks before the commencement of the Session of the Executive Board, whichever is earlier. Also, in accordance with Rule 9 of the ‘Rules of Procedures of the Executive Board’, any proposal for inclusion in the Agenda of any item shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum.

The High-Level Preparatory Meeting for the Seventy-sixth Session of the Regional Committee for South-East Asia, held virtually on 4–5 September 2023, noted the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 154th Session of the WHO Executive Board, which was circulated to all Member States vide the Convocation Letter No. C.L.23.2023 dated 28 June 2023, and the modalities for proposing any additional Agenda item to the Executive Board Bureau within the given deadline of 20 September 2023.
During the HLP Meeting, Member States were informed by the Representatives of the Royal Thai Government that Thailand is proposing the following two topics, in consultation with other Member States, for possible inclusion in the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 154th Session of the WHO Executive Board:

(1) A proposed Agenda item on “Social participation”, which will be further driven through a Side-event proposed to be held at the Seventy-sixth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia; and also through a resolution to be proposed at the 154th Session of the WHO Executive Board under the already existing Agenda item on Social Determinants of Health (in consultation with Member States from SE Asia and other WHO regions).

(2) A second proposed Agenda item on “Antimicrobial resistance”, which is also one of the eight Flagship Priorities of the Regional Director. The Royal Thai Government is collaborating with Member States of the European Union and other Member States of WHO for inclusion of ‘Antimicrobial resistance’ as an Agenda item in the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 154th Session of the WHO Executive Board as well as to propose a draft resolution on ‘Preparations for the UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on AMR in 2024’.

The Royal Thai Government urged other Member States from the SE Asia Region to consider extending support in proposing the above-mentioned Agenda items and resolutions for the 154th Session of the WHO Executive Board in January 2024.

The HLP Meeting made the following recommendations for consideration by the Seventy-sixth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia:

**Action by Member States**

(1) Take note of the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 154th Session of the Executive Board, and the timelines indicated by the Secretariat, for sending any proposal for additional Agenda item(s), to the Officers of the Executive Board by 20 September 2023, accompanied with an explanatory memorandum.

(2) Consider supporting the Royal Thai Government in proposing the Agenda item(s) and resolutions at the 154th Session of the WHO Executive Board.

**Actions by WHO**

(1) Provide the necessary statutory support to Member States in submitting the proposals within the provided deadlines, for inclusion in the Draft Provisional Agenda of the 154th Session of the Executive Board.

The Draft Provisional Agenda for the 154th Session of the WHO Executive Board along with the HLP Meeting recommendations are placed before the Seventy-sixth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia for its review, comment and noting, as appropriate.
Draft provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda
2. Report by the Director-General
3. Report of the regional committees to the Executive Board
4. Report of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board
5. Report of the Standing Committee on Health Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response

Pillar 1: One billion more people benefitting from universal health coverage

6. Follow-up to the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases
7. WHO global strategy on infection prevention and control
8. Immunization Agenda 2030
9. End TB Strategy
10. Road map for neglected tropical diseases 2021–2030

Pillar 2: One billion more people better protected from health emergencies

11. WHO’s work in health emergencies
12. Implementation of resolution WHA75.11 (2022)
14. Poliomyelitis
   • Poliomyelitis eradication
   • Polio transition planning and polio post-certification
15. Smallpox eradication: destruction of variola virus stocks
Pillar 3: One billion more people enjoying better health and well-being

16. Social determinants of health
17. Maternal, infant and young child nutrition
18. Well-being and health promotion
19. The impact of chemicals, waste and pollution on human health

Pillar 4: More effective and efficient WHO providing better support to countries

20. Budget and finance matters

   20.1 Financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2022–2023 and outlook on financing of the Programme budget 2024–2025
   20.2 Draft fourteenth General Programme of Work
   20.3 Sustainable financing: WHO investment round
   20.4 Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules [if any]

21. Management and governance matters

   21.1 Prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment
   21.2 Evaluation: update and proposed workplan for 2024–2025
   21.3 Matters emanating from the Agile Member States Task Group on Strengthening WHO’s Budgetary, Programmatic and Financing Governance
   21.4 Engagement with non-State actors

       • Report on the implementation of the Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors
       • Non-State actors in official relations with WHO

22. Provisional agenda of the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly and date and place of the 155th session of the Executive Board

23. Committees of the Executive Board

   23.1 Independent Expert Oversight Advisory Committee: membership renewal [if any]
   23.2 Foundation committees and selection panels
24. **Staffing matters**

24.1 Appointment of the Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean

24.2 Appointment of the Regional Director for South-East Asia

24.3 Appointment of the Regional Director for the Western Pacific

24.4 Statement by the representative of the WHO staff associations

24.5 Report of the Ombudsperson

24.6 Human resources: update

24.7 Amendments to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules [if any]

24.8 Report of the International Civil Service Commission

25. **Report on meetings of expert committees and study groups**

   • Expert advisory panels and committees and their membership

26. **Closure of the session**