

EB131 (27-8 May, 2012)

Item 3. Outcomes of the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly

(No papers)

US: we appreciated the use of traffic light system at WHA. We would like a better system for distributing amendments to resolution in advance. We would like the Secretariat to propose some options on this item for the next EB.

Switzerland: congratulate the Secretariat for a well prepared WHA. Many things were well prepared but we expect more guidance from the Secretariat especially for the conduction of the discussion on WHO reform.

China: Adopted important resolution like CWG report. For future discussion china stands ready further consultation. Reform the responsibility all member states. More targeted remarks later.

Cuba: I think WHA was perfect and very interesting. In some meetings more participation of MS was needed but to many items did not give as the time to debate was limited, I ask for fewer items next time, more than reducing the time of the intervention and more information ready on the documents before the assembly.

Panama: We recognize the decision points were useful. Clear mechanism for all MS.

Norway: we managed to make progress on several items during the WHA. The number of ongoing intergovernmental process has been reduced. Concerning NCDs, the framework is still unclear, the process was difficult for MS to follow; we need to prepare MS for the October meeting and for the web consultation. We would like the Secretariat to give more guidance. The bureau of the EB is currently under-used, it should have a stronger role in the preparation of the meeting.

Iran: comment on the experience of chairing Committee B. Appreciated the opportunity to appraise last assembly. Mindful that improvements already fall under the reform process. The assembly faces an overloaded agenda. The main committees are often in haste to fulfill the agenda. Affects quality. Appreciate efforts to overcome this problem, it is still cumbersome (particularly for chair) for everyone to have enough time. Situation is worse when substantive or contentious items appears on the agenda. Often agendas are re-assigned which causes delegations to face an unpredictable situation. Also causes confusion within delegation over how to move and divide experts. Cumbersome to find the right balance to participate and manage time well. EB has a crucial role to play. In addition, the EB might carefully see a better agenda-setting.

Mexico: recognize the importance of UHC at assembly; basis towards UHC achievement; need to open up new spaces on international agenda; also support Switzerland's proposal to improve the rule of procedure in our work.

Malaysia: we cannot run away from change. We have observed a long debate on WHO reform during WHA. Malaysia is very interested in the debate on WHO reform, I think this

agenda item will be our priority in the next 2 years. There has to be compromises but we have to come to a conclusion and I hope we will find a way forward to implement WHO reform

Australia: there were some problems with the traffic light system. We need to balance the challenge of achieving consensus with inclusivity. Make sure that people have an opportunity to participate. We hope the Bureau of EB will play a stronger role in the organization of the meeting. Meetings in Geneva are difficult for people like me who come from Oceania, and we can bring few people. We need to change the way we work and try to implement our electronic tools.

Maldives: important for secretariat in ROs to recognize and acknowledge capacity of smaller countries. Often first or second assembly in which we have participated. not fully informed on the business and conduct of the meetings. Also often have a heavy agenda. Find it difficult to follow and actively participate in the discussion. Important to engage earlier with member countries to brief and guide them. Fully acknowledge RO briefings, but often "too little, too late".

Timor Leste: the Committee A and B were very productive. We should clarify the items we would like to consider as a priority. Teleconference meeting could be a good strategy especially for delegations coming from far away.

Qatar: Besides what has already been proposed. Have new proposal to limit interventions re: issues being raised during meetings. Need to see a document for reference for MS to use. Important part of committee work. There are new possible solutions using new methods of communications that could improve the function of committee meetings.

Estonia: The night session has a cost and an impact on the health of the delegates. No public health issues deserve to be discussed at 9 p.m.

Thailand: welcome comments by USA and efficient work of assembly; recognize closer dialogue of MS ahead of time; consider one way: through high-tech tools such as projectors in committee A; we cannot post 6 languages on screen at once, but maybe 1 or 2 major languages. WHA not just a rubber stamp for the EB. Everyone should participate in the consensus process.

DG: thanks for your guidance. WHA was very successful. We had a long agenda. We will support new Members of the EB, we will improve the timeliness of documents. I will get back to you with proposals to manage the amendments to resolutions. But in order to do it, we need trust. How do we find a balance between your right to participate and your responsibilities? Several MS would like the Secretariat to give more guidance on how run EB and WHA, We will do so, but sometimes you scare me because some countries will not accept advice from the Secretariat. So you paralyze me, we need no fear but trust.

No further comments. Conclude consideration of WHA65.