

**Report of the open-ended meeting of Member States on the follow-up of the report of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination  
Geneva, 26–28 November 2012**

1. The open-ended meeting of Member States on the follow-up of the report of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination (CEWG) met from 26 to 28 November 2012 in Geneva and was chaired by Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien (Thailand). The session was attended by representatives from [xx] Member States, and one regional economic integration organization.
2. Member States decided to open the morning session of the 26 November 2012 to nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in official relationship with WHO and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and to invite The Wellcome Trust, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the South Centre.
3. Member States considered the outcomes of the national and regional consultations and the regional committee meetings (A/CEWG/2; A/CEWG/2 Add.1) on the CEWG report and the analysis and feasibility of the recommendations proposed by the CEWG, taking into account related studies. Member States also considered the Report of the Secretariat (A/CEWG/3) on proposals and options relating to (1) research coordination, (2) financing and (3) monitoring of R&D expenditures.<sup>1</sup>
4. The attached draft resolution was agreed by consensus.
5. The Director-General was requested to submit this report and attached draft resolution to the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly, through the Executive Board at its 132nd session, for its consideration.
6. The open-ended meeting of Member States strongly recommends that the EB considers this report and its attached resolution with a view to recommending the adoption of the resolution by the WHA without re-opening it.

*consensus*

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<sup>1</sup> A/CEWG/3

## ANNEX

### Follow up of the report of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination

The Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly,

PP1 Having considered the report of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination (CEWG);<sup>1</sup> *consensus*

PP2 Recalling resolution WHA65.22 which requested the Director-General, inter alia, to hold an open-ended meeting of Member States<sup>2</sup> to thoroughly analyse the report and the feasibility of the recommendations proposed by the CEWG and taking into account discussions during regional committee meetings and regional and national consultations; *consensus*

PP3 Further recalling the Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property and its aims to promote innovation, build capacity, improve access and mobilize resources<sup>3</sup> to address diseases that disproportionately affect developing countries as well as resolutions WHA59.24, WHA63.21 and WHA63.28; *consensus*

PP4 Recognizing the urgency in addressing the health needs of developing countries and the related inequities in the current research landscape due to recognized market failures and the need for enhancing investments in health R&D related to Type II and Type III diseases and the specific research and development needs of developing countries in relation to Type I diseases<sup>4</sup>; *consensus*

PP5 Acknowledging the need for improving monitoring of health R&D resource flows, and identification of gaps in health R&D, better coordination of health R&D and priority-setting based on the public health needs of developing countries; *consensus*

PP6 Acknowledging also that the provision of additional information on disease burden, research opportunities, the potential health impact, and estimations of the resources needed to develop new health products and make them accessible to the poor in developing countries can provide an important basis for advocacy for additional financing; *consensus*

PP7 Recognizing the importance of securing sustainable financing mechanisms for health R&D to develop and deliver health products<sup>5</sup> to address the health needs of developing countries; *consensus*

PP8 Recalling the Global strategy and plan of action which refers to a range of incentive schemes for health R&D with one objective being the de-linkage of the costs of R&D from the price of health products; *consensus*

PP9 Recognizing the interlinkage of monitoring, coordination and financing of health R&D as well as the importance of predictability and sustainability of resources required to enhance health R&D; *consensus*

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<sup>1</sup> Documents A65/24; Annex and A65/24 Corr.1.

<sup>2</sup> And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

<sup>3</sup> WHA61.21 and WHA62.16.

<sup>4</sup> In the context of this resolution health R&D shall refer to health research and development related to Type II and Type III diseases and the specific research and development needs of developing countries in relation to Type I diseases.

<sup>5</sup> The term “health products” hereafter should be understood to include vaccines, diagnostics and medicines in accordance with resolution WHA59.24.

PP10 Reaffirming the importance of facilitation of technology transfer on mutually agreed terms between developed and developing countries as well as among developing countries as appropriate; *consensus*

PP11 Underscoring that health R&D should be needs-driven and evidence-based, and be guided by the following core principles: affordability, effectiveness, efficiency, equity, and it should be considered as a shared responsibility; *consensus*

PP12 Realizing the need for improving priority-setting and transparent decision-making processes based on the public health needs of developing countries; *consensus*

PP13 Noting the important role of the public and private sectors in promoting innovation and developing new health products; *consensus*

OP1 Endorses the following strategic work plan to improve monitoring, coordination and ensure sustainable funding for health R&D, in line with the GSPA, as a step to achieve the goal of development and delivery of affordable, effective, safe and quality health products in which existing market mechanisms fail to provide incentives for health R&D; also agrees to further develop the strategic work plan through broad engagement of public and private entities, academia and civil society; *consensus*

OP2 URGES Member States<sup>1</sup>:

OP2.1 to strengthen health R&D capacities and to increase investments in health R&D for diseases disproportionately affecting developing countries; *consensus*

OP2.2 to promote capacity building, transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and production of health products in developing countries, health R&D and access to health products in developing countries through investments and sustainable collaborations; *consensus*

OP2.3 to establish or strengthen national health R&D observatories or equivalent functions for tracking and monitoring of relevant information on health R&D, in line with agreed norms and standards as established in OP4.1 and contribute to the work of a global health R&D observatory; *consensus*

OP2.4 to promote coordination of health R&D at national, regional and global level in order to maximize synergies; *consensus*

OP2.5 to identify projects, as part of the strategic work plan, through regional consultations and broad engagement of relevant stakeholders, to address research gaps, effective coordination at all levels and secure resource needs for implementation in order to develop and deliver health products; *consensus*

OP2.6 to continue consultations both at national as well as regional and global levels, including through the governing bodies of WHO, on specific aspects related to coordination, priority setting and financing of health R&D; *consensus*

OP2.7 to contribute to coordinated and sustainable financing mechanisms for health R&D, through voluntary contributions for activities at country, regional and global levels, in particular for monitoring, including a Global Health R&D Observatory; *consensus*

OP3 Calls upon all stakeholders, including the private sector, academic institutions and NGOs, to share relevant information with regard to health R&D with WHO in order to

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<sup>1</sup> And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

contribute to a Global Health R&D Observatory and to contribute to the financing mechanisms; *consensus*

OP4 REQUESTS the Director-General: *consensus*

OP4.1 to develop norms and standards for classification of health R&D, building on existing sources, in consultation with Member States and relevant stakeholders, in order to systematically collect and collate information; *consensus*

OP4.2 to support Member States in their endeavor to establish or strengthen health R&D capacities and monitor relevant information on health R&D; *consensus*

OP4.3 to establish a Global Health R&D Observatory within WHO's Secretariat to monitor and analyse relevant information on health R&D, building on national and regional observatories (or equivalent functions) and existing data collection mechanisms with a view to contributing to the identification of gaps and opportunities for health R&D and defining priorities in consultation with Member States, as well as, in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in order to support coordinated actions; *consensus*

OP4.4 To facilitate through regional consultations and broad engagement of relevant stakeholders the implementation of a few health R&D demonstration projects to address identified gaps which disproportionately affect developing countries, particularly the poor and for which immediate action can be taken; *consensus*

OP4.5 To review existing mechanisms to assess their suitability to perform the coordination function of health R&D; *consensus*

OP4.6 to explore and evaluate existing mechanisms for contributions to health R&D, and if there is no suitable mechanism, to develop a proposal for effective mechanisms, including pooling resources and voluntary contributions, as well as a plan to independently monitor their effectiveness; *consensus*

OP4.7 to convene another Open-ended meeting of Member States<sup>1</sup> prior to the 69<sup>th</sup> WHA in May 2016, to assess progress and continue discussions on the remaining issues in relation to monitoring, coordination and financing for health R&D taking into account all relevant analyses and reports, including the analysis of the CEWG Report; *consensus*

OP4.8 to report on the review of existing coordination mechanisms (OP4.5), as well as on the evaluation of existing mechanisms for contributions to health R&D (OP4.6) to the sixty-seventh World Health Assembly, through the Executive Board at its [...] session and to report on the implementation of health R&D demonstration projects (OP4.4) to the sixty-eight World Health Assembly, through the Executive Board at its [...] session, and transmit the report of the open-ended Member States meeting to the sixty-ninth WHA. *consensus*

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<sup>1</sup> And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.