



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **27th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE** **59th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

*Washington, D.C., USA, 1-5 October 2007*

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*Provisional Agenda Item 3.3*

CSP27/5 (Eng.)  
25 July 2007  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

### **ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU AND NOMINATION OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION FOR THE AMERICAS**

1. Article 4, paragraph E, of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) provides that: "The Conference shall elect the Director of the Bureau in accordance with Article 21, paragraph A, of the Constitution." Article 21, paragraph A, prescribes that: "The Bureau shall have a Director elected at the Conference by the vote of a majority of the Governments of the Organization. The Director shall hold office for a period of five years, and may not be reelected more than once."
2. The name of the person elected as Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB) is communicated to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization so it can appoint the person elected as Regional Director for the Americas. This communication is based on Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, which states that: "Acting as Regional Committee of the World Health Organization, and in conformity with Articles 49 and 52 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, the Conference shall submit to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization the name of the person so elected, for appointment as Regional Director."
3. The election procedure for the Director of the PASB is described in Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, as amended by the Directing Council in Resolution CD47.R4 (2006):

“The Conference shall elect the Director by secret ballot, in conformity with Article 21, paragraph A, of the Constitution and the Rules Governing the Election Process for the Post of Director, as approved by the Directing Council. The election process shall begin at least six months prior to the date fixed for the opening session of the Conference or by 1 March, whichever ever comes first, with a notification from the President of the Executive Committee to the Members and Associate Members inviting nominations for the post of Director to be submitted to the President of the Executive Committee. Such notification shall include a copy of the Rules Governing the Election Process for the Post of Director.

Each Member and Associate Member may submit the name of only one national from a country within the Region as a candidate for the post of Director in accordance with the referenced Rules Governing the Election Process for the Position of Director. The nomination will be sent in a sealed, confidential envelope addressed to the President of the Executive Committee, c/o Legal Counsel, Pan American Health Organization, Washington, D.C., at least four months prior to the opening session of the Conference or by 1 May, which ever comes first, after which time the nomination period shall be closed. All nominations received shall be compiled by the Bureau, translated into the four official languages of the Organization, and forwarded by the President of the Executive Committee to the Members and Associate Members at least three months prior to the opening session of the Conference or by 1 June, which ever comes first.

In accordance with the Rules Governing the Election Process for the Position of Director, the President of the Executive Committee shall invite nominated candidates to make a presentation to all Members and Associate Members wishing to attend a Candidate's Forum to be held on the margins of the Executive Committee session preceding the session of the Conference.

The Conference shall elect the Director from among the candidates nominated by the Members and Associate Members in accordance with the Rules Governing the Election Process for the Position of Director. If in the first two ballots no person receives the majority required, two further ballots restricted to the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes in the second of the unrestricted ballots shall then be taken. If no candidate receives the majority required, two unrestricted and two restricted ballots shall be taken alternatively until a candidate is elected.”

4. In accordance with the above Rule, on 28 February 2007 the Member States, Participating States and Associate Members of PAHO were invited to submit nominations for the position of Director to the President of the Executive Committee by no later than 1 May 2007. By way of note verbale dated 1 June 2007 the President of the Executive Committee forwarded to the Member States, Participating States and Associate Members the name and curriculum vitae of the only candidature received, that of the incumbent Director of the PASB, Dr. Mirta Roses Periago, nominated by the Government of Argentina. On 11 June 2007 the President of the Executive Committee convened the Candidates' Forum as mandated by the above referenced Rule, to take place on 29 June 2007 immediately following the closure of the 140th Session of the Executive Committee of PAHO in Washington, D.C. The Forum took the form of a virtual meeting attended by 16 countries in the Washington Headquarters and at least 11 countries on line.

5. Further to the election rules above, Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure of the Pan American Sanitary Conference states that "majority" means "...in the case of the election of the Director, any number of votes greater than half the number of the Members of the Organization." There being 38 Members of the PAHO, "majority" is thus any number of votes greater than 19, that is, 20 or more votes.

6. In accordance with the constitutional provisions, the 26th Pan American Sanitary Conference (2002) elected the present Director for a period of five years, beginning on 1 February 2003 and ending on 31 January 2008. It is therefore incumbent on the 27th Pan American Sanitary Conference to elect the Director of the PASB for a period of five years, beginning on 1 February 2008 and ending on 31 January 2013.

7. Once a candidate has received the majority required, the Conference may wish to adopt a resolution along the following lines:

*Proposed Resolution*

*THE 27th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,*

Bearing in mind Articles 4.E and 21.A of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization, which provide that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall have a Director elected at the Conference by the vote of a majority of the Members of the Organization;

Bearing in mind Article 4 of the Agreement between the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization and Article 52 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, which establish the procedure for the appointment of Regional Directors of the World Health Organization; and

Satisfied that the election of the Director of the Bureau has been held in accordance with the established rules and procedures,

*RESOLVES:*

1. To declare \_\_\_\_\_ elected Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau for a period of five years to begin 1 February 2008.
2. To submit to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization the name of \_\_\_\_\_ for appointment as Regional Director for the Americas of the World Health Organization for the same period.