DECISION

WPR/RC74(3) ALLOCATION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD SEATS

The Regional Committee,

Noting that Member States’ deliberations at a private informal consultation (Caucus) on the nominations from the Western Pacific Region for the available Executive Board seats for the 2024-2027 period did not achieve consensus; and

Noting the informal proposal by the former Regional Director in October 2019, developed in consultation with Member States, which proposed a “formula” to guide the allocation of the five Executive Board seats allocated to the Western Pacific Region, as follows:

- One of the Region’s seats should be held by a Pacific island country;
- At any given time, one to two seats should be held by countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;
- The remaining seats are to be shared by the other countries in the Region, noting the need for a balance between high- and middle-income countries.

Considering that there is a need to achieve greater clarity and certainty for Member States regarding the distribution of Executive Board seats within the diverse Western Pacific Region,

DECIDED to request the Regional Director to:

(1) Prepare options for the equitable distribution of Executive Board seats allocated to the Western Pacific Region, taking account of:

   a. The “formula” proposed by the former Regional Director, in consultation with Member States, in October 2019;
   b. Geographical distribution;
   c. Equitable, rotational representation among middle- and high-income countries;
   d. Good practice examples from other WHO regions and/or other United Nations organizations.
(2) Consult with Member States of the Western Pacific Region prior to the seventy-fifth session of the Regional Committee on these options;

(3) Under the item on the Coordination of the work of the World Health Assembly, the Executive Board and the Regional Committee for the seventy-fifth session of the Regional Committee, include a proposal on the equitable distribution of Executive Board seats allocated to the Western Pacific Region for decision by the Regional Committee in 2024.

Tenth meeting, 20 October 2023