

Status of collection of assessed contributions, including Member States in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution

Situation in respect of 2019

Report by the Director-General

DEFERRAL OF DECISION ON MEMBER STATES IN ARREARS

1. In November 2020, the Seventy-third World Health Assembly adopted decision WHA73(31), in which it decided to defer a decision on the status of collection of assessed contributions, including Member States in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify involving Article 7 of the Constitution to the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly, on the understanding that the Health Assembly would take up this matter on the basis of a report providing an update on the situation and supplying any pertinent additional information, by the Executive Board, through its Programme, Budget and Administration Committee.

2. At the time of the opening of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly, three Member States had reduced their arrears to a level below the amount that would justify invoking Article 7, and another proceeded to do so after the resumed session of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly in December 2020. However nine Member States are still subject to Article 7, since no further payments of arrears have been received from them. These Member States are named in paragraph 12 below and amounts due from them are shown in Annex 4.

3. Another eight Member States listed in paragraphs 9, 10 and 11 had voting rights whose suspension either started or continued at the start of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly, for non-payment of arrears or unpaid special arrangements. The amounts due from them are shown in Annex 4.

STATUS OF COLLECTION

4. In order for WHO to implement the approved programme budget, contributions from Member States must be received in full and on time. Under Financial Regulation 6.4, all Member States are required to pay their contribution as of 1 January of the year to which it relates.

5. Contributions for 2019 were received, either in full or in part, from 140 of the 196 Members and Associate Members (compared with 133 Members and Associate Members in 2018).¹ Details of amounts assessed and collected are shown in Annex 1.

6. Unpaid contributions as at 31 December 2019 amounted to US\$ 103.5 million and Sw.fr. 101.4 million (constituting a combined total of US\$ 207.5 million) with a further US\$ 29.2 million due under special arrangements authorized by the Health Assembly, compared with US\$ 132.9 million (combined total) and US\$ 20.3 million due under special arrangements at the end of 2018. Details of payments made as at 31 December 2019 under special arrangements are shown in Annex 2.

MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE

7. As at 31 December 2019, some Members had made advance payments, either in full or in part, against their regular budget contributions for 2020 and future years. In total, contributions received in advance as at 31 December 2019 amounted to US\$ 40.2 million (US\$ 47.5 million at 31 December 2018). Advance payments are detailed in Annex 3.

MEMBERS IN ARREARS AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

8. Article 7 of the Constitution states that, if a Member fails to meet its financial obligations to the Organization, the Health Assembly may suspend the Member's voting privileges. If, at the time of the opening of the Health Assembly, a Member is in arrears in an amount that equals or exceeds the amount of contributions due from it for the preceding two full years, the Health Assembly takes a decision on suspension of the Member's voting privileges in accordance with resolution WHA41.7 (1988).

9. In accordance with previous Health Assembly resolutions, the voting privileges of Comoros, Gambia and South Sudan remained suspended at the Seventy-third World Health Assembly in 2020 and the suspension will continue in subsequent Health Assemblies until the arrears have been reduced to a level below the amount that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution. Details of the amounts outstanding from these countries are provided in Annex 4.

10. In accordance with resolution WHA72.9 (2019), Congo and Senegal had their voting privileges suspended as from the opening of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly, as they were still in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution. Senegal paid its arrears shortly after the close of the 2020 Health Assembly and will have voting privileges at the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly. The suspension in respect of the other Member State will remain in effect at the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly in 2021 and subsequent Health Assemblies until the arrears have been reduced to a level below the amount that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution. Details of the amounts outstanding are provided in Annex 4.

11. Annex 2 lists 12 Member States that have special arrangements for repayment of arrears approved previously by the Health Assembly. Payments amounting to US\$ 4.4 million were received in 2019 (compared with US\$ 6.6 million in 2018) in accordance with these special arrangements. As at November 2020, nine of the Member States concerned have met their commitments under these arrangements. Three Member States, namely the Central African Republic, Somalia and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), have not met their commitments. Those three Member States lost their voting

¹ For 2018 data, see document A72/37.

privileges since further payments were not made by the opening of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly.

12. As at 5 January 2021, nine Member States, namely Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Sudan, Suriname, Turkmenistan and Yemen, were in arrears in the payment of their contributions in amounts that equal or exceed the amounts due from them for the preceding two full years, as listed in Annex 4. One Associate Member, Puerto Rico, was also behind with its assessed contributions.

13. Pursuant to resolution WHA41.7, unless there were exceptional circumstances justifying a different measure, the Seventy-third World Health Assembly would have normally adopted a resolution deciding whether the voting privileges of the nine Member States mentioned in paragraph 12 should be suspended as from the opening day of the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly, if at that time the Member States concerned were still in arrears to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution. Such a resolution was not adopted by the Seventy-third World Health Assembly, which decided that this matter would be taken up by the Executive Board, through its Programme, Budget and Administration Committee, on the basis of a report providing an update on the situation and supplying any pertinent additional information.¹

14. Member States in arrears of payment to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution may submit proposals for consideration by the Health Assembly for repaying such arrears over an extended period, to be received by the Director-General no later than 31 March.² Such proposals for special arrangements are considered by the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board at its May meeting, which subsequently makes its recommendations to the Health Assembly. No new repayment proposals were submitted for consideration in 2020.

ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

15. The Board is invited to note the report and to request the Director-General to submit an updated report on the situation to the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly for its consideration, through the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board. The Board may also wish to consider the following draft resolution in respect of Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Sudan, Suriname, Turkmenistan and Yemen, in accordance with the principles stated in resolution WHA41.7:

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report on status of collection of assessed contributions, including Member States in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution,³

¹ Decision WHA73(31) (2020).

² Resolution WHA54.6 (2001).

³ Document EB148/29.

RECOMMENDS to the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on status of collection of assessed contributions, including Member States in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution, and special arrangements for settlement of arrears;

Noting that, at the time of opening of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly, the voting rights of Comoros, Congo, Gambia and South Sudan were suspended,¹ such suspension shall continue until the arrears of the Member States concerned have been reduced, at the present or future Health Assemblies, to a level below the amount that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution;

Noting that at the time of the opening of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly, the Central African Republic, Somalia and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) had not met their commitments under special arrangements for repayments of arrears and therefore have had their voting rights suspended in accordance with resolutions WHA70.1 (2017), WHA72.10 (2019) and WHA72.14 (2019);

Noting that Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Sudan, Suriname, Turkmenistan and Yemen were in arrears at the time of the opening of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly to such an extent that it was necessary for the Health Assembly to consider, in accordance with Article 7 of the Constitution, whether the voting privileges of those countries should be suspended (exceptionally, as soon as practicable after the opening of the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly in 2021), following consideration of this matter by the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly,

DECIDES:

(1) that, in accordance with the statement of principles set out in resolution WHA41.7 (1988), if, by the time of the opening of the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Sudan, Suriname, Turkmenistan and Yemen are still in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution, their voting privileges shall be suspended following consideration of this matter by the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly;

(2) that any suspension that takes effect as set out in paragraph (1) above shall begin at the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly, following consideration of this matter by Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly, and continue at subsequent

¹ At the opening of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly the voting rights of Senegal were also suspended; however, the Member State paid its arrears after the closure of the Seventy-third World Health Assembly and will have voting privileges at the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly.

Health Assemblies, until arrears have been reduced to a level below the amount that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution;

(3) that this decision shall be without prejudice to the right of any Member to request restoration of its voting privileges in accordance with Article 7 of the Constitution.

STATUS OF COLLECTION OF ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

[illegible]

Members and Associate Members	2019						Previous financial periods						Total outstanding	
	Assessment		Collected		Balance outstanding		Balance as at at 31 December 2018		Collected in 2018		Balance outstanding			
	A US\$	B Sw.fr.	C US\$	D Sw.fr.	E = A-C US\$	F = B-D Sw.fr.	G US\$	H Sw.fr.	I US\$	J Sw.fr.	K = G-I US\$	L = H-J Sw.fr.	M = E+K USD	N = F+L CHF
Burundi	4 780	-	-	-	4 780	-	4 780	-	4 700	-	80	-	4 860	-
Cabo Verde	4 780	-	4 780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	19 130	-	19 130	-	-	-	19 130	-	19 130	-	-	-	-	-
Cameroon	47 840	-	28 777	-	19 063	-	178 367	-	178 367	-	-	-	19 063	-
Canada	6 987 795	6 959 834	6 987 795	6 959 834	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central African Republic ^a	4 780	-	-	-	4 780	-	28 030	-	28 030	-	-	-	4 780	-
Chad	23 920	-	-	-	23 920	-	23 920	-	-	-	23 920	-	47 840	-
Chile	954 480	950 662	-	-	954 480	950 662	28 405	72 174	-	-	28 405	72 174	982 885	1 022 836
China	18 948 900	18 873 105	18 948 900	18 873 105	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colombia	770 280	767 199	-	597 735	770 280	169 464	1 518 125	1 476 156	1 518 125	1 476 156	-	-	770 280	169 464
Comoros	4 780	-	-	-	4 780	-	398 295	-	-	-	398 295	-	403 075	-
Congo	28 700	-	-	-	28 700	-	69 162	-	-	-	69 162	-	97 862	-
Cook Islands	4 780	-	4 780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Costa Rica	112 435	111 986	112 435	93 128	-	18 858	-	100 692	-	100 692	-	-	-	18 858
Côte d'Ivoire	43 060	-	40 965	-	2 095	-	46 160	-	46 160	-	-	-	2 095	-
Croatia	236 825	235 877	236 825	235 877	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cuba	155 495	154 873	155 495	154 873	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cyprus	102 865	102 453	-	-	102 865	102 453	102 865	102 454	102 865	102 454	-	-	102 865	102 453
Czechia	822 910	819 619	822 910	819 619	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	23 920	-	23 920	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Democratic Republic of the Congo	38 270	-	-	-	38 270	-	38 270	-	-	-	38 270	-	76 540	-
Denmark	1 397 030	1 391 442	1 397 030	1 391 442	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Djibouti	4 780	-	4 780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominica	4 780	-	4 780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominican Republic ^a	110 040	109 600	110 040	109 600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ecuador	160 275	159 634	160 275	159 634	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Egypt	363 610	362 155	-	-	363 610	362 155	716 630	714 870	716 630	714 870	-	-	363 610	362 155
El Salvador	66 980	-	66 980	-	-	-	66 980	-	66 980	-	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	47 840	-	-	-	47 840	-	47 840	-	-	-	47 840	-	95 680	-
Eritrea	4 780	-	-	-	4 780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 780	-
Estonia	181 810	-	181 810	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Members and Associate Members	2019						Previous financial periods						Total outstanding	
	Assessment		Collected		Balance outstanding		Balance as at at 31 December 2018		Collected in 2018		Balance outstanding			
	A US\$	B Sw.fr.	C US\$	D Sw.fr.	E = A-C US\$	F = B-D Sw.fr.	G US\$	H Sw.fr.	I US\$	J Sw.fr.	K = G-I US\$	L = H-J Sw.fr.	M = E+K USD	N = F+L CHF
Eswatini	9 570	-	-	-	9 570	-	14 601	-	-	-	14 601	-	24 171	-
Ethiopia	47 840	-	47 840	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fiji	14 350	-	14 350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finland	1 090 835	1 086 471	1 090 835	1 086 471	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	10 260 740	12 935 425	10 260 740	12 935 425	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gabon	81 340	-	-	-	81 340	-	78 414	-	-	-	78 414	-	159 754	-
Gambia	4 780	-	-	-	4 780	-	18 730	-	-	-	18 730	-	23 510	-
Georgia ^a	38 270	-	38 270	-	-	-	4 646	-	4 646	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	15 284 085	15 222 948	15 284 085	15 222 948	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ghana	76 550	-	-	-	76 550	-	3 088	-	0	-	3 088	-	79 638	-
Greece	1 126 715	1 122 208	1 126 715	1 122 208	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grenada	4 780	-	-	-	4 780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 780	-
Guatemala	133 960	-	133 960	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guinea	9 570	-	9 570	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	4 780	-	4 780	-	-	-	227 805	-	227 805	-	-	-	-	-
Guyana	9 570	-	-	-	9 570	-	11 402	-	4 370	-	7 033	-	16 603	-
Haiti	14 350	-	-	-	14 350	-	14 350	-	-	-	14 350	-	28 700	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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