

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Regulations No. 1 regarding nomenclature (including the compilation and publication of statistics) with respect to diseases and causes of death. Adopted by the first World Health Assembly, at Geneva, on 24 July 1948

Supplementary Regulations to the above-mentioned World Health Organization Regulations No. 1. Adopted by the second World Health Assembly, at Rome, on 30 June 1949

Official texts : English and French.

Registered by the World Health Organization on 20 June 1950.

ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ

Règlement n° 1 relatif à la nomenclature (y compris l'établissement et la publication de statistiques) concernant les maladies et causes de décès. Adopté par la première Assemblée mondiale de la santé, à Genève, le 24 juillet 1948

Règlement complétant le règlement n° 1 susmentionné de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé. Adopté lors de la deuxième Assemblée mondiale de la santé, à Rome, le 30 juin 1949

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistrés le 20 juin 1950 par l'Organisation mondiale de la santé.

No. 847. WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION REGULATIONS¹ No. 1 REGARDING NOMENCLATURE (INCLUDING THE COMPILATION AND PUBLICATION OF STATISTICS) WITH RESPECT TO DISEASES AND CAUSES OF DEATH. ADOPTED BY THE FIRST WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY, AT GENEVA, ON 24 JULY 1948

The World Health Assembly,

Recognizing the importance of ensuring as far as possible the uniformity and comparability of statistics of diseases and causes of death,

Having regard to Articles 2 (s), 21 (b), 22 and 64 of the Constitution² of the World Health Organization,

Adopts this twenty-fourth day of July one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight the following Regulations, which may be cited as the Nomenclature Regulations 1948.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1950, in accordance with article 19, for the States listed below, these States having been notified on 9 August 1948 of the adoption of the Regulations by the World Health Assembly.

Remarks or reservations formulated by States marked with an asterisk are reproduced on page 42.

China and Pakistan, which have been notified of the adoption of the Regulations by the World Health Assembly, have informed the Director-General of the World Health Organization of the impossibility of applying the Regulations for the present.

Afghanistan	Finland	Portugal
Albania	France	* Romania
* Australia	Greece	Saudi Arabia
Austria	Haiti	Siam
Belgium	Hungary	* Sweden
Brazil	* Iceland	* Switzerland
Bulgaria	* India	Syria
* Burma	Iraq	Transjordan
Byelorussian Soviet	Iran	Turkey
Socialist Republic	Ireland	Ukrainian Soviet
Canada	Italy	Socialist Republic
* Ceylon	Liberia	* Union of South Africa
Czechoslovakia	Mexico	* United Kingdom
Denmark	Monaco	United States of America
Dominican Republic	Netherlands	Union of Soviet Socialist
Egypt	Norway	Republics
El Salvador	* New Zealand	Venezuela
Ethiopia	Philippines	Yugoslavia
	Poland	

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Volume 14, page 185.

Article 1

Members of the World Health Organization for whom these Regulations shall come into force under article 20 of the present Regulations (hereinafter referred to as Members) shall compile and publish annually for each calendar year statistics of causes of death, in accordance with Articles 2-8, 12, 17-19 of the Regulations and in accordance with the classification, nomenclature and numbering as set out in the Lists given in the Manual¹ of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death, annexed to the present Regulations. The Lists hereinafter mentioned are the Lists set forth in the Annex.

Article 2

Each Member shall code mortality statistics in accordance with the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death with or without four-digit subcategories, and using for the purpose the Tabular List of Inclusions and Alphabetical Index.

Article 3

Each Member shall publish statistics of causes of death in respect of :

- (a) its territory as a whole;
- (b) principal towns;
- (c) national aggregates of urban areas (districts);
- (d) national aggregate of rural areas (districts).

Each Member shall append to the statistics referred to under (c) and (d) the definition of "urban" and "rural" areas applied therein.

For the purpose of this Article and of Articles 6 and 16, "territory" designates the metropolitan (home) territory of the Member, and not dependent territories, whether protectorates, colonies, other outlying possessions or territories under trusteeship.

Article 4

Statistics of causes of death in respect of the territory of a Member, taken as a whole, shall be published in accordance with :

- (a) the List of three-digit categories of the Classification (Detailed List) with or without four-digit subcategories;

or, if this is not possible, in accordance with :

- (b) the Intermediate List of 150 Causes.

¹ The Manual of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death (Sixth Revision of the International Lists of Diseases and Causes of Death, adopted 1948), Volume 1 and Volume 2, is not reproduced in the *Treaty Series*. It has been printed as Supplement 1 to the *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*.

Article 5

Statistics of causes of death in respect of principal towns, national aggregates of urban areas (districts), national aggregate of rural areas (districts) shall be published in accordance with :

(a) the Intermediate List of 150 Causes;
or, if this is not possible, in accordance with :

(b) the Abbreviated List of 50 Causes.

If they are given in greater detail, without reaching the extent of the Detailed List, they shall be so arranged that, by suitable grouping, they can be reduced to the Intermediate List of 150 Causes or to the Abbreviated List of 50 Causes.

Article 6

Statistics of causes of death shall be published according to the following sex and age groupings :

(a) for : the whole territory of the Member

(i) by sex and

(ii) for the ages :

under one year

single years to 4 years inclusive

five-year groups from 5 to 84 years

85 years and over;

(b) for : each town of 1,000,000 population and over, otherwise the largest town with population of at least 100,000;

national aggregate of urban areas of 100,00 population and over;

national aggregate of urban areas of less than 100,000 population;

national aggregate of rural areas

(i) by sex and

(ii) for the ages :

under one year

1—4 years

5—14 years

15—24 years

25—44 years

45—64 years

65—74 years

75 years and over.

If the age grouping is given in greater detail it shall be so arranged as to allow condensation into the age groups under (b) (ii).

Article 7

If statistics for administrative subdivisions are published by age the age grouping given under (b) (ii) of Article 6 shall be used.

Article 8

If special statistics of infant mortality are published by age, the following age grouping shall be used :

- by single days for the first week of life (under one day, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 days)
- 7—13 days
- 14—20 days
- 21—27 days
- 28 days to 2 months
- by single month of life from 2 months to one year (2, 3, 4, ... 11 months).

Article 9

Each Member shall adopt a form of medical certificate of the cause of death that provides for the statement of :

- I. the disease or condition directly leading to death, together with such antecedent morbid conditions as may exist, so that the underlying cause of death will be clearly indicated, and
- II. such other significant conditions contributing to the death but not related to the disease or condition causing death.

The form of medical certificate of cause of death to be used shall conform as far as possible to the model given in the Annex.

Article 10

As far as possible, medical certification of the cause of death shall be the responsibility of the attending physician.

Article 11

As far as possible, the administrative procedure for the completion, transmission and statistical treatment of the medical certificate of cause of death shall ensure protection of the confidential nature of the medical information contained therein.