
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Raloliya Nidhish
17LL1A

- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health. It is part of the U.N. Sustainable Development Group.
- The WHO Constitution, which establishes the agency's governing structure and principles, states its main objective as ensuring "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health."



**World Health
Organization**

ESTABLISHMENT

- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health. It is part of the U.N. Sustainable Development Group.
- The WHO Constitution, which establishes the agency's governing structure and principles, states its main objective as ensuring "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health."
- It is established at 7 April 1948 . Headquarters are in Switzerland and Geneva.

STRUCTURE

- WHO, like many other international organizations, has a somewhat complex organizational structure. The headquarters is based in Geneva, Switzerland, and there are 6 regional offices located around the world and 147 individual country offices.
- The World Health Assembly (WHA) is the legislative and supreme body of WHO. Based in Geneva, it typically meets yearly in May. It appoints the Director-General every five years and votes on matters of policy and finance of WHO, including the proposed budget. It also reviews reports of the Executive Board and decides whether there are areas of work requiring further examination. The Assembly elects 34 members, technically qualified in the field of health, to the Executive Board for three-year terms.

HEAD QUARTER OF GINIVA



ROLE

- Providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed;
- Shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge;
- Setting norms and standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation;
- Articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options;
- Providing technical support, catalysing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity; and
- Monitoring the health situation and assessing health trends

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **1947:** The WHO established an epidemiological information service via telex, and by 1950 a mass tuberculosis inoculation drive using the BCG vaccine was under way.
- **1955:** The malaria eradication programme was launched, although it was later altered in objective. 1955 saw the first report on Diabetesmellitus and the creation of the International Agencyfor Research on Cancer.
- **1966:** The WHO moved its headquarters from the Ariana wing at the Palace of Nations to a newly constructed HQ elsewhere in Geneva.
- **2000:** The Stop TB Partnership was created along with the UN's formulation of the Millennium Development Goals.

GOALS

- Providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed;
- Shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation, and dissemination of valuable knowledge.
- setting norms and standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation;
- articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options;
- providing technical support, catalysing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity; and
- monitoring the health situation and assessing health trends.

CONTROVERSIES

- It has been alleged that the WHO was aware of a Dr. Hilary Koprowski, a doctor allegedly performing research on AIDS and Ebola by deceiving and infecting Africans with a faux polio vaccine. It was estimated that over a million Africans were infected from 1954 to 1957. However, his work having been the cause of any disease has been refuted.
- The aggressive support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for intermittent preventive therapy of malaria triggered a memo from the former WHO malaria chief Akira Kochi.

-

PARTNERSHIP

- The WHO is financed by contributions from member states and outside donors. As of 2012, the largest annual assessed contributions from member states came from the United States (\$110 million), Japan (\$58 million), Germany (\$37 million), United Kingdom (\$31 million) and France (\$31 million). The combined 2012–2013 budget has proposed a total expenditure of \$3,959 million, of which \$944 million (24%) will come from assessed contributions. This represented a significant fall in outlay compared to the previous 2009–2010 budget, adjusting to take account of previous underspends. Assessed contributions were kept the same. Voluntary contributions will account for \$3,015 million (76%), of which \$800 million is regarded as highly or moderately flexible funding, with the remainder tied to particular programmes or objectives.
- There were 189 partnerships with international NGOs in formal "official relations" – the rest being considered informal in character. Partners include the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATION

How the WTO relates to other institutions

Coordination with other international organizations is a higher priority in the WTO than it was in the GATT period. The prospects for incoherence and outright conflict have risen with the strengthening of the dispute settlement rules. GATT already had more enforcement power than did other international organizations, and the WTO Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU) is both stricter and more frequently used than its GATT predecessor. The scope of issues in the WTO system is much wider than had been the case under GATT, in part because the proponents of the new issues preferred to bring agreements within the jurisdiction of these dispute settlement rules. In some cases, that meant negotiating wholly new agreements dealing with subjects that are also treated in other organizations; in others, the Uruguay Round negotiators cross-referenced or even incorporated the standards and agreements of those institutions within the agreements that they drafted. The only international organizations that the original GATT mentioned were the IMF and the United Nations, whereas WTO agreements make reference to these two plus the Codex Alimentarius, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the OECD, UNCTAD, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank, the World Customs Organization (WCO), the WHO, the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

The problem of coherence

The range of issues that are now dealt with in the WTO includes many that were either left out



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**