



**World Health  
Organization**

**African Region**

**AFR/RCSS1/Decision 1**  
14 January 2025

**REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA**

**ORIGINAL: ENGLISH**

First special session

Virtual session, 14 January 2025

Provisional agenda item 2

**SPECIAL PROCEDURES TO REGULATE THE CONDUCT OF VIRTUAL SPECIAL  
SESSIONS OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

The First special session of the Regional Committee for Africa,

1. **ADOPTED** the special procedures to regulate the conduct of the virtual special session of the Regional Committee as set out in Annex 1 to this decision; and
2. **DECIDED** that the said special procedures should apply to the First special session of the Regional Committee for Africa held on 14 January 2025.

## **Annex 1**

### **Special procedures to regulate the conduct of the virtual special session of the Regional Committee for Africa**

#### **RULES OF PROCEDURE**

1. The Rules of Procedure of the Regional Committee for Africa shall continue to apply in full, except to the extent that they are inconsistent with these special procedures, in which case the Regional Committee's decision to adopt these special procedures shall operate as a decision to suspend the relevant Rules of Procedure to the extent necessary in accordance with Rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure of the Regional Committee for Africa.<sup>1</sup>

#### **ATTENDANCE AND QUORUM**

2. The First special session will convene in private meetings. Attendance by Member States shall be through a secured access to videoconference or other electronic means allowing representatives to hear other participants and to address the meeting remotely.

3. For the avoidance of doubt, virtual attendance of representatives of Member shall be taken into account when calculating the presence of a quorum.

#### **ADDRESSING THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

4. Statements will be limited to three minutes for Member States. Any representative wishing to take the floor should signal their wish to speak through the tools made available by the online platform.

#### **COMMITTEES**

5. All business shall be conducted in plenary. Accordingly, a Committee on Credentials shall not be appointed. Credentials shall be considered as set out below.

#### **CREDENTIALS**

6. Credentials submitted for attending the Seventy-fourth session of the Regional Committee for Africa held from 26 to 30 August 2024 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, shall be considered as valid for the purpose of attending the First special session of the Regional Committee for Africa.

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<sup>1</sup> This will affect notably the relevant provisions of the following Rules of Procedure of the Regional Committee for Africa:

- Rule 3 (Credentials);
- Rule 6 (meetings);
- Rules 45, 48 through 51 (voting by show of hands and secret ballot);
- Rule 54 (amendments of and addition to the Rules of Procedure) insofar as these Special Procedures may be regarded as amendments of or addition to the Rules of Procedure and to the extent that Rule 54 requires receipt and consideration of a report thereon by an appropriate subcommittee.

7. Should the credentials already submitted for attending the Seventy-fourth session of the Regional Committee for Africa require updating or replacement, additional or amended credentials may be issued. They shall indicate the names of representatives, including all alternates, advisers and secretaries and shall be issued by Heads of State, Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Ministers of Health or any other appropriate authority. Such additional or amended credentials shall be communicated electronically to the Regional Director, if possible, no later than 9 January 2025 in accordance with Rule 3 of the Rules of Procedure.

8. The Chairperson of the Regional Committee shall review the credentials of representatives including all alternates, advisers and secretaries before the opening and during the First special session, in order to assess their conformity with the requirements of the Rules of Procedure, and report to the Regional Committee accordingly at the opening and at any given time as may be needed to enable the Regional Committee to make a decision thereon.

### **DECISION-MAKING**

9. All decisions of the Regional Committees taken in virtual session should as far as possible be by consensus. In any event, given the virtual nature of the session, no decision shall be taken by show of hands or by secret ballot.