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7 WAYS TO AMEND

A DRAFT RESOLUTION - WHA

7 Ways to Amend a Draft Resolution

World Health Assembly

1) DELETE A WORD, PHRASE, SECTION IN A PARAGRAPH

With an amendment to delete a phrase:

PP 7 Hopeful that WHO will verify reports **[USA DEL: in accordance with Article 9]** about events which may constitute a public health emergency of international concern within 24 hours of receiving information...

With an amendment to delete an entire paragraph:

PP5 Noting Member State consensus to reduce the period for entry into force of amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) as set out in Article 59, and to make technical adjustments to Article 59 and related Articles of the instrument, to ensure coherence and consistency; **[BRA DEL PP5]**

2) ADD A WORD, PHRASE, SECTION IN A PARAGRAPH

With an amendment to add:

OP1 URGES Member States:

- (1) to promote pharmaceutical assistance programs **[GRE ADD: in order]** to lower the price of medication by developing their own pharmaceutical sector

3) REPLACE A WORD, PHRASE, OR SECTION IN A PARAGRAPH WITH NEW TEXT

With an amendment to replace a phrase:

PP5 **[CAN, ITA REP: Recalling that Noting that]** Member States decided to establish...

7 Ways to Amend a Draft Resolution

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4) ADD A COMPLETELY NEW PARAGRAPH IN BETWEEN TWO EXISTING PARAGRAPHS

PP10 Affirming that the period provided in Article 22 of the Constitution of WHO for rejection of, or reservation to, these Regulations or an amendment thereto, shall be 18 months from the date of the notification by the Director-General;

PP10 bis AUS Affirming also that these Regulations shall enter into force 24 months after the date of notification by the Director-General;

The addition of the word 'bis' after PP10 indicates that Australia is proposing that this new paragraph be inserted between PP10 and PP 11.

If additional new paragraphs were added immediately after PP10 bis, the sequence would be marked as follows:

PP10 ter
PP10 quater
PP10 quinque
etc.

5) ADD AN ALTERNATE VERSION OF A PARAGRAPH

There are different types of alternated paragraphs.

One type of alternate paragraph occurs when a delegate wants to delete a paragraph and replace it with a new paragraph. See example below:

PP5 Noting Member State consensus to reduce the period for entry into force of amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) as set out in Article 59, and to make technical adjustments to Article 59 and related Articles of the instrument, to ensure coherence and consistency; **[CAN DEL PP5]**

7 Ways to Amend a Draft Resolution

World Health Assembly

5) ADD AN ALTERNATE VERSION OF A PARAGRAPH (CONT.)

PP5 ALT CAN Recalling that Member States decided to establish the Working Group on IHR amendments (WGIHR), through the Working group on strengthening WHO preparedness and response to health emergencies (WGPR), to discuss targeted amendments to address specific and clearly identified issues, challenges, including equity, technological or other developments, or gaps that could not effectively be addressed otherwise but are critical to supporting effective implementation and compliance of the International Health Regulations (2005);

A second type of an alternate paragraph maintains some of the wording of the original paragraph but makes some revisions in how the idea is expressed. See example below:

OP 3 Requests the Director-General:

(1) to submit a concise report on the implementation of the present resolution, which neither duplicates nor summarizes other reports;

OP 3 ALT NOR: Requests the Director-General:

(1) to submit a note at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution and decides to include in the provisional agenda the item entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conferences on Financing”;

If the paragraph that is being proposed is completely different and adds new content that is not replacing an existing paragraph to the resolution, it should be entered as a new paragraph as illustrated in example #4.

6) MOVE A PARAGRAPH TO ANOTHER PLACE IN THE RESOLUTION

PP3 Expressing appreciation for the work of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies in developing an inclusive Member State-led process for considering amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) **[PERU MOVE PP3 between PP5 and PP6];**

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7) MERGE TWO PARAGRAPHS INTO ONE

PP10 Affirming that the period provided in execution of Article 22 of the Constitution of WHO for rejection of, or reservation to, these Regulations or an amendment thereto, shall be 18 months from the date of the notification by the Director-General;

PP11 Affirming also that these Regulations shall enter into force 24 months after the date of notification by the Director-General of the adoption of an amendment to these Regulations by the Health Assembly; **[US MERGE PP10 and 11]**

GENERAL NOTE

While the line by line review is designed to allow delegates to propose changes to the text of an outcome document, delegates can indicate if they agree or disagree with the amendment that is being proposed. If a delegate agrees with an amendment that is proposed, their country will be listed as a co-sponsor.

If we take the example of PP7 above and imagine that Italy agreed with it, the amendment would appear as follows to show that Italy was co-sponsoring the amendment:

PP 7 Hopeful that WHO will verify reports **[USA, ITA DEL: in accordance with Article 9.]** about events which may constitute a public health emergency of international concern within 24 hours of receiving information...

If they disagree, we will indicate their disagreement by putting the initials of the country along with the letters RET in brackets as follows:

PP 7 Hopeful that WHO will verify reports **[USA DEL: in accordance with Article 9.][ITA RET]** about events which may constitute a public health emergency of international concern within 24 hours of receiving information....

The letters RET stand for RETAIN or keep the original language as it was before USA proposed its amendment. It is just another way of saying the Italy disagrees with the amendment proposed by the USA.

It is important to remember, that although delegates can indicate if they agree or disagree with an amendment during the line by line review, they do not need explain why. The debate on each amendment will take place at a later time.