

Executive Board of WHO

November 17, 2020

In news

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare virtually chaired the 147th WHO Executive Board recently

World Health Assembly and the Executive Board of WHO

- The World Health Organization (WHO) is governed by two decision-making bodies: the World Health Assembly and the Executive Board.
- The Executive Board consists of 34 Members, elected for three-year terms, and meets twice each year.
- At the main meeting, which is held in January, the Board establishes an agenda for the upcoming World Health Assembly, which is held in May. An administrative meeting is also held immediately after the Health Assembly.
- The main functions of the Board are to implement the decisions and policies of the Health Assembly, and advise and generally to facilitate its work

The World Health Assembly

- It is the supreme governing body of the WHO and is comprised of delegations from all 192 Member States.
- The Health Assembly is charged with establishing policies for the Organization, as well as approving the programme budget and appointing the Director-General.

These two bodies create a forum for debate on health issues and for addressing concerns raised by Member States.

Documents produced by these two bodies

Three types of documents, described below, are produced by the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly:

1. Resolutions and Decisions passed by the Executive Board or World Health Assembly
2. Official Records, as published in the in the WHO Official publications, of the Executive Board or World Health Assembly
3. Documents, as presented "in session", of the Executive Board or World Health Assembly