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World Health Organization

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World Health Organization

The World Health Organization was formed in 1945 when delegates from the United Nations came together and discussed setting up a global health body. Additionally, WHO constitution was initiated on April 7th, 1948 which is a date commemorated as World Health day annually (WHO, n.d). The global health industry is dynamic hence global healthcare organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO) face many internal and external factors that hinder the achievement of desired goals and objectives. However, the leadership of WHO coupled with teamwork is all that is needed to mitigate the challenges. In addition to that, a continuous evaluation process is necessary to identify where the organization can improve. Different influences may affect the success of WHO and they generally fall within two categories namely internal and external factors.

Internal Factors

Leadership is one of the factors affecting WHO. The head of the WHO is a senior doctor who has immense knowledge and experience. The current head of the WHO Doctor Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus a healthcare expert from Ethiopia has the mandate of steering the global health body in achieving its goals (WHO, n.d). Indeed, the success of the global health body depends on its leadership. Unfortunately, steering the organization on the right path to achieve its mandate arises as a challenge as far as leadership is concerned.

Employees come in as another factor. The WHO employs some of the brilliant minds from different parts of the world. Doctors, nurses, and other professionals working for the WHO undergo thorough vetting, the best get hired and deployed to the different global stations (WHO, n.d). Furthermore, it is not only critical to hire staff, but also continuous training is key to enable

them to achieve desired results. The WHO is also keen on training their staff. The challenge is that it has different operational areas in various locations worldwide.

Last but not least internal factor is the opportunity for growth. As indicated earlier, the WHO employs brilliant minds who undergo thorough vetting before being hired. At the same time, their employees are well trained and remunerated. However, just like any other organization WHO faces many challenges concerning its growth opportunities (WHO, n.d). Leadership positions are few besides some employees might lose interest in working after serving in the same position for long.

External Factors

The WHO gets its funding from member states voluntary contributions and contributions assessed on parameters such as the gross domestic product per capita. As of 2018, the organization's budget stood at \$4.2 billion, with a large percentage from voluntary contributions from the member countries (Reddy et al., 2018). Regrettably, in recent years, the WHO has not received adequate funding to help it carry out its mandate as is expected as some of the member countries have failed to remit their contributions to the global health body.

Preparing for pandemics requires adequate resources and cooperation among the WHO member states. However, currently, that is not the case. For instance, responding to a pandemic such as Coronavirus requires resources at the same time, WHO member states do less on the preparation process for future pandemics.

Though the WHO is a global health body, it cannot work in isolation. The WHO must work with different health bodies in various countries. However, many countries are member states but choose to isolate the WHO from their internal operations (Reddy et al., 2018). For

example, since the coronavirus outbreak, many countries have been working on a vaccine without the organization's input.

The aforementioned internal and external factors affecting the WHO are positive as they allow the organization to improve every day. For instance, the global health body must focus on its leadership and its employees to deliver on its mandate. In addition to that, even though the WHO faces difficulties with funding, preparation for epidemics, and lack of cooperation among its member states, it is always working closely with the United Nations and the member states to ensure they deliver health services to those who desperately need them. Thus, becoming a positive because there is room for continuous improvement.

References

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