

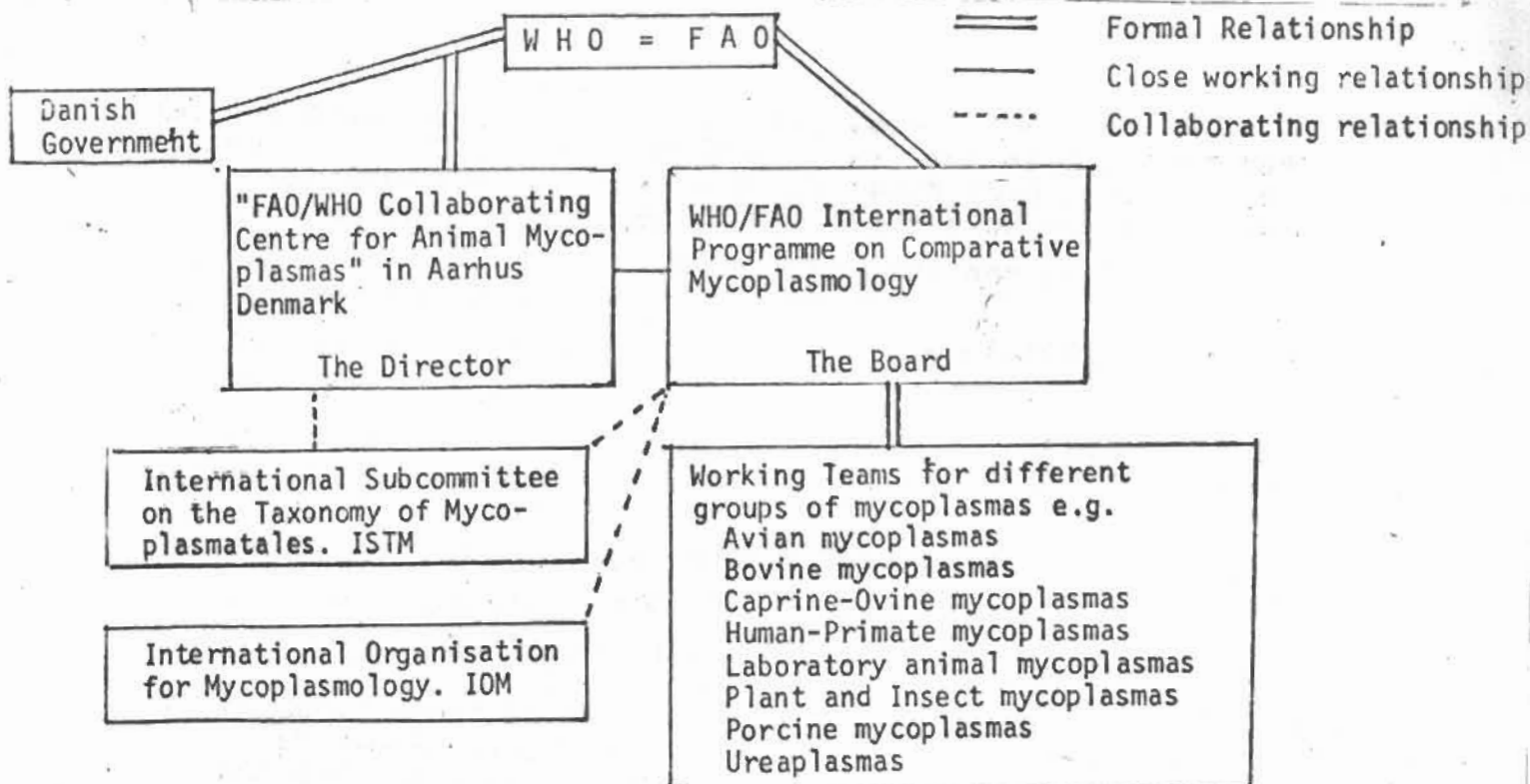
## CONSTITUTION OF THE PROGRAMME

1. The name of the Programme is "WHO/FAO International Programme on Comparative Mycoplasmaology"
2. The object of the Programme is to advance knowledge on all those aspects of mycoplasma infections that will contribute to the human population of the world being able to lead a healthier life, and in furtherance of this object the Programme shall aim to do and encourage work that will lead to
  - (a) the control of mycoplasmal diseases of man
  - (b) the control of mycoplasmal contamination of cell cultures and laboratory animals used for the diagnosis of human disease and for the production of vaccines
  - (c) the control of mycoplasmal diseases of domestic animals and crop plants, so that food and shelter for man can be produced more economically and efficiently.

These objectives shall be achieved by pursuing the scientific work detailed in the document entitled "Working Methods of the WHO/FAO Programme on Comparative Mycoplasmaology".

3. The Programme shall be run by a Board which shall consist of
  - (a) a Chairman and Vice-Chairman who are elected for each session<sup>+</sup>, but who may stand for re-election subject to serving in office for a maximum of three consecutive sessions
  - (b) the immediate past Chairman
  - (c) the Heads of the Teams working on the nominated groups of mycoplasmas. Heads of working teams should not normally serve for more than three consecutive sessions; a deputy head, who would normally become head, should be appointed not later than the end of the second session
  - (d) not more than six advisory members, elected by existing Board Members, taking into consideration their field of mycoplasma expertise and the geographical situation of their home country. Advisory members should not normally serve for more than three consecutive sessions.
  - (e) the Director(s) of the FAO/WHO Collaborating Centre(s) for mycoplasmas
  - (f) the Chairman of the International Sub.Committee for the Taxonomy of mycoplasmatales
  - (g) an officer of the IOM
  - (h) a representative of the WHO secretariat
  - (i) a representative of FAO

4. The relationship between the Programme and other bodies and organisations shall be as follows:



5. The Board shall arrange Board Meetings at approximately 2-3 year intervals. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the next 2-3 year term shall be elected at a Board Meeting by a majority of the Board Members present, provided there is a quorum. The retiring Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be eligible for re-election for one further term. The retiring Chairman shall serve on the Board for one term after retirement even if not in a position as Team Leader or an Advisory Member.
6. A quorum at a Board Meeting shall be 12. No elections may be held or policy decisions made at a Board Meeting unless a quorum is present.
7. The Board shall have the power to coopt additional Board Members provided the maximum size of the Board, including ex-officio members, but excluding the WHO secretariat does not exceed 20.
8. Retirements from the Board shall be in order of length of service excluding terms as Chairman, Vice-Chairman and past Chairman. Retiring Board Members may be re-elected by a majority of Board Members voting in favour at a secret ballot.
9. Policy decisions may be made between Board Meetings provided the new policy is approved by both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and provided that following a written proposal from the Chairman two thirds of other Board Members vote in favour of the new policy. Any Board Member who considers that there has not been adequate consideration may appeal to the Chairman who shall decide whether the appeal shall be upheld or not. Any appeals that are not upheld shall be reported in writing to all other Board Members and put on the Agenda of the next Board Meeting.

10. The Board shall execute all the powers and perform all duties for which the Programme has been established and shall have full powers to do all such things as may be incidental or conducive to the objects of the Programme.
11. The Board shall have and may exercise and perform the following powers and duties, namely,
  - (a) Convene Meetings of the Board and of Team Members.
  - (b) Appoint special committees.
  - (c) Issue a publication following each meeting of the Board and any other publications that have a bearing on the objects of the Programme.
  - (d) Appoint a Secretary and/or Treasurer of the Programme.
  - (e) Deal with the monies of the Programme.
  - (f) Coopt when there is a vacancy with the Board.
12. Accounts shall be kept of all monies received and expended in the work of the Programme. At each Board Meeting an Auditor shall be appointed by resolution who shall audit the accounts of the Programme and submit to the next Board Meeting a statement showing the financial position of the Programme which he has examined and certified.
13. The language of communication between Board Members shall be English.
14. The Constitution may be amended only at a Board Meeting by a majority vote; the proposed amendment(s) shall be submitted in writing to the Chairman at least 2 months before the next Board Meeting and supported by at least three Board Members. It shall be incumbent on the Chairman to ensure that any proposed amendments are sent out to Board Members at least one month before the Board Meeting.
15. Board Members or Team Members shall not be entitled during membership or in the event of a winding up of the Programme to any payment or transfer direct or indirect of any of the monies or properties of the Programme by way of dividend, gift, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit. All assets remaining after settlement of outstanding debts shall on dissolution be transferred to some other charitable body or used for other charitable purposes.

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<sup>+</sup> A session is defined as the period between one series of consultations of the Board and the next.