working party of the regional committee

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



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Topic 6: DRAFT REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON THE PROGRAM AND BUDGET OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU FOR 1953.

Chapter IV, Article 12, Paragraph C of the Constitution states that it is the function of the Executive Committee: "to prepare with the cooperation of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau a proposed budget for consideration by the Council."

As the procedure that has been followed, which consists in preparing a document to be presented to the Executive Committee and then drafting a new one incorporating the changes suggested, represents an expense of more than \$5,000.00, the Executive Committee thought it wise, in order to avoid duplication of work, which means a sacrifice of time and money, to adopt at this meeting Resolution I, which reads as follows:

- "1. To authorize the Director to submit to the Member Governments, as the official budget of the Executive Committee, the budget prepared by the Director accompanied by a separate document incorporating the action taken by the Executive Committee.
- "2. To authorize the Director to prepare a final complete budget, as an official record of the Bureau, after the meeting of the Directing Council."

In compliance with this resolution the decisions of the Executive Committee thereon accompany the budget of the Director.

The budget was drafted in a form that presents an overall picture of the international public health activities in the Western Hemisphere.

The chapters and items for the Pan American Sanitary Bureau were studied one by one, and amounts for 1953 similar to those appropriated in the 1952 budget were approved. The budget also includes information on the programs that are to be financed with funds from the regular budget of the World Health Organization (subject to approval by the World Health Assembly) and the Technical Assistance programs of the United Nations and of the Organization of American States (subject to the amounts voted by their competent agencies).

Since the Director stated that this budget reflects the decentralization of the activities of the Headquarters Office in favor of the Zone Offices, the Executive Committee points out the need for carrying out such decentralization.

When the budget allotments for the Division of Administration were studied, it became evident that this unit has a great many offices. This fact suggests the advisability of consolidating some of them. The Committee also suggests the wisdom of increasing the responsibilities of the offices of Assistant Director and Secretary General.

In general, the Executive Committee considered that in the Pan American Sanitary Bureau the funds for administrative expenses are out of proportion to the funds for field programs, and it suggests to the Director the advisability of orienting his policy so that a greater percentage of the funds will be devoted to the aforesaid field activities.

The advisability of evaluating the activities of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau was brought out, and the following method was approved: That the Director should complete a study within the next 60 days, on the manner in which such a survey could be carried out, and that he send the results of this study to the Governments, thus enabling the Member Governments of the Executive Committee to submit within 30 days thereafter their opinion on the plan, so that it could be undertaken and a preliminary report of the study be presented at the Meeting of the Directing Council.

The excellent presentation of the budget did not pass unnoticed, nor did the points of view of the Director pointing out that the administrative problems of an international bureau are not a simple matter, and that the present type of organization should not be changed without first knowing the results of that evaluation.

The Executive Committee wishes to bring to the attention of the Directing Council the following recommendations on specific items of the budget:

1) Office of Planning and Coordination (pp. 41-43).

This office was established by the Director in January 1952, to assist him, the Assistant Director and the Chiefs of Divisions in the coordination and planning of the activities of the Bureau involving other international agencies. The Committee does not feel that this type of unit is essential to the proper functioning of the Bureau. However, the Committee is of the opinion that no final decision on the Office should be taken until next year when, with one year of experience, it will be possible to make a more adequate evaluation of its usefulness.

2) Supply Office (pp. 70-71).

The Committee questions the necessity of having 18 posts in this office, and in particular the position of Assistant Chief. Not wishing arbitrarily to abolish the last-mentioned post, the Committee has decided to leave the decision to the Director.

3) Zone Offices (pp. 107-110).

In the description of the "Purpose" (p. 108) of the Zone Offices, the Committee made several changes directed at giving a more accurate picture of the functioning and objectives of the offices. The following changes in the text were approved (additions are underlined, deletions are in brackets):

The programs of the Field Offices are regulated by the Pan American Sanitary Code and the resolutions of the Pan American Sanitary Conference and its organs. The activities developed are /essentially/ of a technical or a practical nature, with respect to the internal problems and the sovereignty of the various countries included in their jurisdictional territory. The principal objection may be summarized as follows:

Points 1 to 4 remain unchanged.

5. To collaborate in the development of the practical programs in the various countries, using the facilities of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau or of other organizations.

At the second plenary session it was decided that the budget should not exceed a limit of two million dollars for the financial year 1953.

The Executive Committee was asked to consider the possibility of increasing by \$500,000 the regular budget for 1953, an amount that would be used fundamentally for carrying out field programs

The Committee, while recognizing the desirability of implementing the additional projects, decided against approving any of them. It was felt that the Member Governments were not in a position to support a substantial increase in the budget.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee recommends to the Directing Council the approval of the following resolutions:

Proposed Resolutions

I

THE DIRECTING COUNCIL

RESOLVES:

1. To appropriate for the financial year 1953 an amount of \$2,060,000 as follows:

Purpose of Appropriation

PART	I	Pan American Sanitary Organization	\$ 144,657
PART	II	Pan American Sanitary Bureau - Headquarters	914 ,4 38
PART	III	Pan American Sanitary Bureau - Field and Other Programs	930,905
PART	VI	Pan American Sanitary Bureau - Other Expenditures	70,000
		Total All Parts	\$2,060,000
		Less Miscellaneous Receipts	60,000
		TOTAL	\$2,000,000

- 2. Amounts not exceeding the appropriations noted under Paragraph 1 shall be available for the payment of obligations estimated in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Bureau during the period 1 January to 31 December 1953, inclusive.
- 3. The appropriations as noted above shall be financed by contributions from Member Governments according to Article LX of the Pan American Sanitary Code.
- 4. The Director is authorized to transfer credits between Parts I, II, and III of the budget, provided that such transfers of credits between parts as are made do not exceed 10 percent of the part from which the credits are transferred. Transfers of credits between these parts of the budget in excess of 10 percent may be made with the concurrence of the Executive Committee. All transfers of budget credits between these parts of the budget shall be reported to the Directing Council.
- 5. Such income as may accrue to sums appropriated for the purpose of Building Loan retirement during 1953 will be handled in accordance with the Financial Regulations, Article VI, Section 6.1.

II

THE DIRECTING COUNCIL

RESOLVES:

That the scale of assessments and the contributions of the Member States for the financial year ending 31 December 1953 shall be as follows:

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Argentina	7.31	\$ 146,200
Bolivia	•35	7,000
Brazil	9.54	190,800
Chile	2.06	41,200
Colombia	2.17	43,400
Costa Rica	• 24	4,800
Cuba	1.94	38,800
Dominican Republic	•30	6,000
Ecuador	•30	6,000
El Salvador	•30	6,000
Guatemala	•35	7,000
Haiti	.24	4,800
Honduras	. 24	4,800
Mexico	3.83	76,600

(Continued)

II (Continued)

Nicaragua	.24	4,800
Panama	.30	6,000
Paraguay	.24	4,800
Peru	1.17	23,400
United States	66.00	1,320,000
Uruguay	.99	19,800
Venezuela	1.89	37,800
Total	100.00%	\$2,000,000