

*executive committee of  
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN  
SANITARY  
ORGANIZATION

*working party of  
the regional committee*

WORLD  
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Topic 22: DISCONTINUATION OF THE USE OF CERTAIN TERMS AND EXPRESSIONS  
IN THE DOCUMENTS OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY ORGANIZATION

(Topic presented by the Representative of Argentina)

International agencies have made use of a number of terms and expressions for the purpose of establishing certain distinctions between countries that have abundant resources and extensive technical facilities in all fields of human endeavor, and others where these conditions are not found.

In cooperative activities among these groups of countries, some are designated as "under-developed" or "economically weak", etc., and others are said to offer "technical aid" or "economic aid".

All countries today have a greater awareness of their material and spiritual values, and are increasingly jealous of their national and international dignity.

Thus, if to receive "aid" it is necessary to agree to recognize a status of "inferiority" to other groups of countries, the decision frequently will be neither to request nor to accept any collaboration or co-operation whatever.

On the other hand, in our field of public health these cooperative activities are of the greatest value. To be able to profit by the experience acquired by other nations in solving grave and persistent problems, and to have the benefit of skilled experts, is, for the country that may need such cooperation, a means of saving time, money, and effort, and of arriving at the desired results by the most direct route.

No one who needs such collaboration should fail to profit by it, if it can conveniently be carried out.

With a view to facilitating these activities, we believe, and therefore propose, that in all documents drawn up for the implementation of joint programs between the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the Member Governments, use should not be made of terms such as those mentioned above, and the terms "collaboration" or "cooperation" should be used in all cases.