Topic 23: DURATION OF THE VI MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL

Background

The increasing number of topics on the agenda of meetings of the Directing Council and the limited time at the disposal of the Council to carry out its tasks, seem to make it advisable to increase the time assigned for the deliberations of the VI Meeting.

Resolution XLI of the Directing Council, approved at its V Meeting, Washington, D.C., established the dates for the meetings to be held at Havana, as follows:

17th Meeting of the Executive Committee: 15-17 September (three working days);

VI Meeting of the Directing Council: 19-25 September (five working days);

18th Meeting of the Executive Committee: 26 September (one working day).

At the IV Meeting of the Directing Council (Ciudad Trujillo) there were 29 topics on the Agenda, 27 resolutions were adopted and the sessions were held over a period of 6 days. At the V meeting (Washington) the discussions lasted 8 days, the topics numbered 44+, of which 7 were suggested by WHO Headquarters, Geneva, and 45 resolutions were adopted. From a preliminary study of the agenda for the VI Meeting (Havana, 19-25 September 1952), it is noted that there are already 30 topics to be taken up without counting those that WHO might suggest after the World Health Assembly. Consequently, the VI Meeting of the Council will have on its agenda as many topics as there were at the V Meeting.
Only 5 working days have been set aside for this Meeting (19-25 September).

Evidently it would not be possible to take up the complete agenda of the VI Meeting, which will have at least as many topics as that of the V Meeting, within a time limit of 5 working days. As a consequence, it is deemed advisable to assign 3 supplementary days to the VI Meeting of the Directing Council, (Regional Committee of the World Health Organization). In this manner the total working days for the VI Meeting will be the same as that for the V Meeting (1951). To this end it would be necessary to advance the dates previously set for the meetings of the Executive Committee as well as of the Directing Council itself. For obvious reasons, no change would be made in the date set for the opening of the First Inter-American Public Health Congress.

The dates then would be as follows:

17th Meeting of the Executive Committee: 10-12 September 1952 (three working days);

VI Meeting of the Directing Council: 15-24 September 1952 (eight working days);

18th Meeting of the Executive Committee: 25 September 1952 (one working day); and

First Inter-American Public Health Congress, 27 September to 1 October 1952 (four working days).

Proposed Resolution

In view of the above, the Executive Committee may wish to adopt a resolution along the following lines:

WHEREAS:

Only a period of five working days has been assigned to the VI Meeting of the Directing Council to be held at Havana, and

Five working days would be insufficient for the deliberations in view of the number of topics on the agenda of this meeting,
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES:

To authorize the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to convolve the 17th Meeting of the Executive Committee, the VI Meeting of the Directing Council, and the 18th Meeting of the Executive Committee on the following dates:

17th Meeting of the Executive Committee: 10-12 September 1952

VI Meeting of the Directing Council: 15-24 September 1952

18th Meeting of the Executive Committee: 25 September 1952