regional committee





XII Meeting

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Havana, Cuba August 1960

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# Topic 28: RESOLUTIONS OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY AND THE WHO EXECUTIVE BOARD OF INTEREST TO THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The Director-General of the World Health Organization has informed the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau that no resolution adopted either by the Thirteenth World Health Assembly or by the Executive Board at its twenty-fifth session calls for any action on the part of any Regional Committee of the World Health Organization.

However, for purposes of information the Director desires to bring to the attention of the XII Meeting of the Directing Council, XII Meeting of the Regional Committee, the following resolutions:

#### 1. Malaria Eradication

## RESOLUTION WHA13.45

MALARIA ERADICATION SPECIAL ACCOUNT

The Thirteenth World Health Assembly,

Having reviewed the report of the Director-General on the Malaria Eradication Special Account;

Having considered resolution EB25.R19 of the Executive Board;<sup>2</sup>

Having noted that up to the present time voluntary contributions to the Special Account have not been forthcoming in sufficient amounts to ensure the continued financing of the programme in the way envisaged by the decision of the Eighth World Health Assembly;<sup>3</sup>

Bearing in mind that malaria eradication is an urgent programme limited in time, which will probably require assistance from the Special Account for several years, after which time the problem should be so reduced that completion of the task could be financed by the governments concerned, with some assistance, if necessary, from the regular budget of the Organization;

Aware of the ever-growing understanding that the eradication of malaria is of paramount importance for the general health, social and economic advancement of the malarious countries and the prosperity of the world community as a whole,

- 1. THANKS those donors whose contributions to the Malaria Eradication Special Account have made it possible to finance the programme to date;
- 2. ENDORSES the action taken by the Executive Board and the Director-General as described in the Director-General's report;
- 3. COMMENDS the Director-General, his special representatives and his staff for the energetic efforts which they have made to secure additional contributions to the Special Account, as requested by the World Health Assembly;
  - 4. CONSIDERS that a stage has definitely been reached when the financing of the Organization's eradication operations through the Malaria Eradication Special Account on a voluntary basis will no longer be possible without the full support of all the economically more privileged countries of the world;
- 5. NOTES with gratification that important initiative has been taken recently by a number of countries with a view to contributing substantially to the Special Account and encouraging other countries to support it;
  - 6. EXPRESSES the hope that other economically more advanced countries will soon join in this endeavour and will, in the light of the detailed programme plans and related costs and considering the results achieved to date, make substantial contributions in order to provide resources to enable the World Health Organization to give the assistance needed by the less developed countries, which are already investing considerable sums for their malaria eradication programmes;
  - 7. CALLS the attention of Member States to the need for support from individual governments in the effort to obtain contributions from industry or the general public.
  - 8. CONSIDERS that continuing efforts should be made to finance the malaria eradication programme on a voluntary basis and reiterates its appeal to Member States, and to foundations, industry, labour organizations, institutions and individuals to contribute to the Malaria Eradication Special Account;
    - 9. REQUESTS the Director-General to report to the Fourteenth World Health Assembly on the situation; and

10. DECIDES to reappraise the financial situation of the Malaria Eradication Special Account at the Fourteenth World Health Assembly and, should sufficient contributions not be forthcoming, to consider appropriate measures to ensure the financing of the programme.

(Eleventh Plenary Meeting, 19 May 1960, Al3/VR/11)

Document Al3/AFL/24

## RESOLUTION WHA13.55

#### MALARIA ERADICATION PROGRAMME

The Thirteenth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the development of the malaria eradication programme;

Noting the satisfactory progress that has been made in the world-wide campaign for malaria eradication;

Recognizing that the operational supervision and epidemiological assessment which are essential for the continuing success of the campaign can only be ensured by the adequate staffing of national malaria eradication services with fully-trained personnel;

Noting the steps that have been taken by the Director-General to provide increased facilities for the training of the required national personnel as well as to meet the request for technical advisory services needed by the governments;

Believing that it is important to keep constantly in mind the essential element of urgency in malaria eradication programmes which must be time-limited programmes and that adequate organizational and financial support is indispensable; and

Recognizing that co-ordination between neighbouring countries is of special importance to countries reaching an advanced stage in their eradication programmes and that a fundamental element for such co-ordination is the regular reporting of the progress of operations and more particularly of epidemiological assessment;

<sup>20</sup>ff. Rec. Wld Hlth Org. 99,9

<sup>3</sup>Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, 5th ed., p. 25

- 1. URGES governments concerned to intensify their efforts for the training and provision of adequate technical and administrative personnel required to strengthen the supervisory and epidemiological assessment activities of their malaria eradication services, taking full advantage of the facilities provided by the Organization;
- 2. URGES governments concerned to accord to their national malaria eradication programmes the priority needed for the successful completion of the campaign within the shortest period of time;
- 3. REQUESTS governments concerned to continue to keep the Organization regularly informed of the progress of their malaria eradication programmes and, in particular, of their epidemiological assessment activities;
- 4. REQUESTS the Director-General to keep under constant review the progress of the world-wide programme, to make available to governments such technical advisory services as may be required, and to continue to take all the necessary steps to ensure the proper co-ordination of programmes throughout the world; and
- 5. REQUESTS the Director-General to establish an official register listing areas where malaria eradication has been achieved, after inspection and certification by a WHO evaluation team.

(Eleventh Plenary Meeting 19 May 1960, Al3/VR/11)

Document Al3/P and B/15 and Annex

2. Radiation health, including protection of mankind from ionizing radiation hazards, whatever their source

# RESOLUTION WHA13.56

The Thirteenth World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolution WHAll.50 concerning the study of health problems connected with the uses of atomic energy;

Noting resolution 1347 (XIII) of the Thirteenth General Assembly of the United Nations concerning the report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR), in which resolution the General Assembly calls upon all concerned to assist the Committee by making available to it reports and studies relating to the short-term and long-term effects of ionizing radiation upon man and his environment and radiological data collected by them, and by pursuing investigations to broaden world scientific knowledge in this sphere and by transmitting their results to the Committee;

Noting that this appeal was reaffirmed by the Fourteenth General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolution 1376 (XIV) and that UNSCEAR has been requested by the United Nations General Assembly to continue its work and is preparing a second comprehensive report for publication in 1962;

Noting that resolutions have been adopted by previous assemblies, more specifically WHAll.50 emphasizing the important role of WHO in the health aspects of radiation from all sources;

Noting that broadly, WHO's responsibilities include protection from radiation hazards and development of the medical uses of radiation and radioactive isotopes;

Considering that in WHO's programme of research provision is made for studies concerning radiation sickness and human heredity;

Noting with satisfaction from the report of the Director-General, the increase in training and technical assistance in radiation health;

Noting that health authorities have a responsibility for the prevention and control of health hazards associated with radiation from all sources:

Believing that WHO's activities in the field of radiation health will be of continuous and increasing benefit to national health authorities and to the work of IAEA, UNSCEAR, the other specialized agencies and interested inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations;

- 1. REQUESTS the Director-General to continue constructive co-operation of WHO with IAEA and other appropriate agencies; and
- 2. REQUESTS the Director-General to assist Member States in extending and developing health laboratory competence to deal with radiation and radioactivity, and in the meantime to provide assistance to States without these facilities and in the collection of representative samples to facilitate their own work and that of UNSCEAR;

3. REQUESTS the Director-General that in the activities of WHO in radiation health, he place special emphasis upon the teaching and training of technical personnel within the Member countries and on encouraging and assisting the health authorities in these countries to accept their major role and accelerate their activities in the public health aspects of radiation from all sources; and

4. REQUESTS the Director-General to report to the Fourteenth World Health Assembly on the progress being made by Member Countries in developing and staffing radiation control programmes, with particular reference to the responsibility of national health authorities and of WHO in this field.

(Eleventh Plenary Meeting 19 May 1960, Al3/VR/11)

#### 3. World Health Year

# RESOLUTION WHA13.65

The Thirteenth World Health Assembly,

Considering that the number and importance of health projects currently undertaken or planned require the use of all resources available if they are to be brought to a successful conclusion;

Considering that the efforts and expenditure involved in the holding of a World Health Year are unlikely to be commensurated with the benefit which the people would derive from this year;

Believing that these efforts would be better applied to a critical review and evaluation of programme and projects;

RECOMMENDS that the holding of an International Health Year be postponed.

(Twelfth Plenary Meeting 20 May 1960, Al3/VR/12)

# 4. WHO Participation in the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

#### RESOLUTION EB25.R52

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the participation of WHO in the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

- 1. NOTES the report;
- 2. CALLS the attention of the national health administrations to the decisions of the Economic and Social Council on country programming, and that, on an experimental basis, the programme for 1961-1962 is to be planned and approved for the two-year period (E/RES/735(XXVIII));
- 3. INVITES health administrations, in consultation with regional offices, to ensure that health projects planned beyond the biennium 1961-1962, assisted under the Expanded Programme, are requested for their full duration through the appropriate governmental authority.

(Sixteenth meeting, 28 January 1960 EB25/Min/16)

Document EB25/60

5. Smallpox Eradication

### RESOLUTION WHA13.53

6. "Third General Programme of Work covering a specific period 1962-1965 inclusive"

# RESOLUTION WHA13.57

These last two resolutions are considered as Agenda topics Nos. 20 and 25 respectively.