

directing council



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XVIII Meeting

Buenos Aires, Argentina
October 1968

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XX Meeting



Provisicnal Agenda Item 8

CD18/13 (Eng.)
2 October 1968
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SUBMITTED BY DR. GUILLERMO MOLINA DEFRANC, ECUADOR, PRESIDING OFFICER AT THE 59TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In implementation of the resolution adopted by the 59th Meeting of the Executive Committee designating me I have the honor to submit a report to the Directing Council, pursuant to Article 9-C of the Constitution, on the activities of the Committee since October, 1967, during which period it held its 58th and 59th Meetings.

The 58th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization was held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, on 12 October 1967, immediately following the XVII Meeting of the Directing Council. At that meeting the following representatives took office: Dr. Orontes Aviles, (Nicaragua); Dr. Leonard M. Comissiong (Trinidad and Tobago) and Dr. Miguel Dicancro (Uruguay), those countries having been elected to membership of the Committee on the expiry of the term of office of Jamaica, Panama, and Venezuela. The following representatives were also present: Dr. Roberto Acosta Borrero (Colombia); Dr. Benjamin D. Blood (United States of America); Dr. Carlos A. Waldheim (Guatemala). The representative of Ecuador did not attend the meeting. Dr. Roberto Acosta Borrero (Colombia) was elected Chairman and Dr. Carlos A. Waldheim (Guatemala) Vice-President. Dr. Abraham Horwitz, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, served as Secretary ex officio of the Committee.

The 58th Meeting discussed in detail the resolutions of the XVII Meeting of the Directing Council and decided to include in the Agenda of the 59th Meeting all the items arising from resolutions of the XVII Meeting of the Directing Council that were of interest to the Executive Committee. It also authorized the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to convene the 59th Meeting at a date to be fixed in agreement with the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

The 59th Meeting of the Executive Committee

The 59th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization was held in Washington D.C. from 24 to 31 July, 1968. The following Representatives, Alternates, and Observers were present:

Representatives and Alternates:

Dr. David Bersch Escobar	COLOMBIA
Dr. Guillermo Restrepo Isaza	
Dr. Guillermo Molina DeFranc	ECUADOR
Dr. Alejandro Paz Dominguez	
Dr. Benjamin D. Blood	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Dr. Leo J. Gehrig	
Dr. Frank J. Mulhern	
Mr. Edward Betzig	
Mr. Otis E. Mulliken	
Mr. Edward B. Rosenthal	
Dr. Joseph L. Stockard	
Dr. Cesar Augusto Vargas Monterroso	GUATEMALA
Dr. Orontes Aviles	NICARAGUA
Dr. Mervyn Ulrick Henry	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Dr. Carlos Maria Imaz	URUGUAY

Observers:

Dr. Alberto F. Mondet	ARGENTINA
Dr. Victorio V. Olguin	
Mr. Henri B. de Coignac	FRANCE
Mr. Corneille W. J. Jonckheer	KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS
Dr. Daniel Orellana	VENEZUELA

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Organization of American States:

Dr. Jesse D. Perkinson
Mr. Beryl Frank
Mrs. Alzora Eldridge

Inter-American Development Bank:

Dr. Erly Dias Brandao

Non-Governmental Organizations:

Dr. Robert Alexander Robertson
Dr. Per G. Stensland

Pan American Federation of Association of Medical Schools:

Dr. Amador Neghme R.

Pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure Dr. Abraham Horwitz, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, served as Secretary ex officio of the Committee.

In the absence of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman elected at the 58th Meeting, Dr. Guillermo Molina DeFranc (Ecuador) was designated, pursuant to Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure, to preside over the Meeting.

The Executive Committee held 13 plenary sessions and a closing session and made a detailed examination of the following items:

Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 1967

The Executive Committee made a detailed examination of these reports which showed that the Organization continued to be in sound financial condition and that there had been an improvement in the collection of quotas which had made it possible to increase the level of Working Capital Fund and of the reserves for termination costs. It therefore decided to take note of those reports, to transmit them to the XVIII Directing Council, and to commend the Director for the sound financial condition of the Organization. However, it deemed it advisable to call the attention of the Governments to the need for quotas to be paid as soon as possible within the course of each financial year and it requested the External Auditor to submit, in accordance with the provisions of Article 12.6 of the Financial Regulations, such observations as he might deem necessary and appropriate with respect to the efficiency of the financial procedures, the accounting system, the internal financial controls, and, in general, the financial consequences of administrative practices.

Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the Pan American Health Organization for 1968

The Executive Committee devoted ten sessions to a detailed and exhaustive examination of proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the Organization, prepared by the Director pursuant to Article 14-C of the Constitution. In addition to budgetary items the discussion covered projects and general questions relating to the policy and program of the Organization. It took into account the fact that since the Organization of American States had officially transferred the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center to the Pan American Health Organization the budget of that institution had been incorporated into the general program and budget estimates of the Organization and was thus subject to the provisions of the Financial Regulations applicable to all parts of the Budget Estimates including the use of the Working Capital Fund.

On concluding its discussion the Committee decided to submit to the XVIII Meeting of the Directing Council the proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the Pan American Health Organization for 1969 (Official Document No. 85) at the level of \$12,592,036 for the effective working budget, together with a recommendation that it give favorable consideration to it.

Provisional Agenda for the XVIII Meeting of the Directing Council, XX Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas

The Committee, after a careful review of the provisional agenda prepared by the Director for the XVIII Meeting of the Directing Council, XX Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas, approved it and authorized the Director to include in it such additional items as might be proposed in due time by the governments and by those organizations entitled to propose agenda items.

Provisional Agenda and Program of Sessions of the Special Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Americas

The Executive Committee examined the provisional agenda and program of sessions of the Special Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Americas, convened by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau in implementation of Resolution XXXVIII adopted by the Directing Council at its XVII Meeting, held in Trinidad and Tobago in October, 1967. It approved the proposed agenda and program of sessions and authorized the Director to include in it such new items as might be proposed in due course by the Ministers.

Arrangements for the Special Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Americas and for the XVIII Meeting of the Directing Council, XX Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas

The Executive Committee examined the report of the Director on the arrangements for the Special Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Americas and XVIII Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO and the XX Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas. It took note of the report and expressed its thanks to the Government of Argentina for its valuable assistance in connection with the arrangements being made for those meetings. It also authorized the Director to utilize funds from the Working Capital Fund of the Organization to cover the cost of the Special Meeting of Ministers of Health including the transport of Representatives from each of the Member Countries in order to ensure the success of the meeting.

Program of Support for Teaching and Research in the Health Sciences

The Executive Committee made a careful examination of the program which it regarded as supplementary to the ordinary Fellowship Program of the Organization and an effective contribution to increasing the stability and the productivity of teachers and research workers in the health sciences. It noted that the program could be financed with the regular funds of the Organization and decided to transmit the report concerned to XVIII Meeting of the Directing Council with a recommendation that it approve it and charge the costs against the funds assigned to the Fellowship Program.

Evaluation of the Fellowship Program

In implementation of Resolution XXV of the XVII Meeting of the Directing Council, the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau submitted to the Executive Committee a report containing the findings of a preliminary evaluation of the Fellowship Program. The Committee discussed the evaluation at length, the preliminary results of which were promising. It urged the Director to continue the proposed study until it was completed and to submit the findings to the Governing Bodies of the Organization in due course.

Relation of Health to Law

The Executive Committee considered the preliminary report on the relation of health to law prepared by the Director following the instructions of the XVII Meeting of the Directing Council. It recognized that it was a new activity with many problems which should be more thoroughly explored. It decided to take note of the preliminary report and to recommend to the Directing Council that it authorize the Director to prepare a complete report on the matter for the XVIII Pan American Sanitary Conference. At the same time it recommended that a group of international experts be convened to make a preliminary draft of a revision of the Pan American Sanitary Code for submission to the 61st Meeting of the Executive Committee.

Rules for Technical Discussions

The Executive Committee studied the proposed amendments to the Rules, the purpose of which was to help the Directing Council choose the subject to be discussed. In the opinion of the Executive Committee the proposed changes improved the text of the Rules for Technical Discussions and it therefore recommended to the Directing Council that it approve them.

Amendment to Article 15-A of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization

The Executive Committee took note of the fact that, in implementation of Resolution XXXVIII of the XVII Meeting of the Directing Council, the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau had submitted to the Member Governments of the Organization the proposed amendment to Article 15-A of the Constitution and the transitional article submitted by the Governments of Brazil and Nicaragua, the purpose of which was to increase to nine the number of Member Governments forming the Executive Committee of the Organization, due attention being paid to the most appropriate geographical distribution. After a full discussion, the Committee decided to recommend to the Directing Council that it adopt the proposed amendment as well as the transitional article which would make it possible for the same meeting of the Directing Council to fill the existing vacancies in the Executive Committee and to elect two additional members, thus bringing the total number of members to nine.

Progress Achieved in the Co-ordination of the Services and Programs of the Ministries of Health, Social Security Institutes, and other Institutions that Conduct Activities Related to Health

The Executive Committee made a detailed study of the report on the item and concluded that satisfactory progress had been made in 1967 and 1968, as was shown by the enactment of laws, decrees, and agreements designed to establish programs for the coordination of health services with medical care services and, often, to set up a regionalized administrative system. At the central level such coordination had usually led to the establishment of a joint committee which worked in close contact with the economic planning agencies.

The Executive Committee noted with satisfaction that considerable progress had been made, and decided to recommend to the Governments that had already initiated or might in the future initiate co-ordination activities that they take into account Resolution XX of the XVII Meeting of the Directing Council, the third operative paragraph of which recommended to the Member Governments that they undertake as part of economic and social development broad and co-ordinated planning of the health sector in which all agencies interested and especially Social Security Institutes that provide health services, should participate.

The Executive Committee also approved the postponement of the proposed meeting of the expert committee to review the co-ordination of medical services, for which provision was made in the above-mentioned resolution, until such time as the results of the experiments currently underway made it possible to appraise the value of the methods adopted by the countries in the Americas.

Emergency Revolving Fund

The Executive Committee, having noted that heavy increase in demands for emergency purchases of vaccines had made it impossible for the Fund to meet the requests of Governments, decided to invite Governments, when they received assistance from the Fund, to reimburse the amounts advanced as soon as possible, and recommended to XVIII Meeting of the Directing Council that it increase the ceiling of the Fund to \$125,000 and authorize for that purpose, the transfer to it of \$25,000 from the Working Capital Fund.

Report on Buildings and Installations

The Executive Committee took note of the report of the Director on buildings and installations which described the future space needs of the Organization and pointed out that at the current rate of growth it would be necessary to have new physical facilities for Headquarters by 1975 or 1976. The Permanent Sub-Committee on Buildings and Installations also made a full report on the steps it had taken to obtain additional space for Headquarters.

In view of the information provided, the Executive Committee thanked the Director and the Permanent Sub-Committee on Buildings and Installations for the action they had taken in connection with additional space for Headquarters and recommended that they continue to take the necessary steps to meet the future space needs of the Organization in buildings near Headquarters.

Amendments to the Staff Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

The Executive Committee took note of the fact that the Members of the Committee had individually confirmed the proposal for the merger of the PAHO/WHO Health Insurance Fund and confirmed the corresponding amendment to Staff Rule 710.1 of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau effective 1 January 1968: "All full-time staff members appointed for a period of one year or more shall participate in, and their dependents enjoy the benefits of, the combined PAHO/WHO Staff Health Insurance in accordance with the established rules."

Comparison of the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the World Health Organization

Bearing in mind the desirability of making the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and those of the World Health Organizations as similar as possible, the Executive Committee requested the Director to continue to introduce such changes as he deemed necessary to maintain close similarity in the provisions of the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and those of the World Health Organization.

Tax Equalization Plan

The Executive Committee heard an explanation of the Tax Equalization Plan and the establishment of a Tax Equalization Fund by the Secretariat.

It was pointed out that the system had just been approved by the World Health Assembly at its most recent meeting. It is proposed to apply it to the Pan American Health Organization. It was pointed out that it applies to those countries whose legislation require staff members of the Bureau to pay income tax which, according to the staff rules of the Bureau, should be reimbursed by it. The plan makes it possible to establish a system whereby the funds for that repayment will come from the governments whose legislation prescribes the payment of the above-mentioned taxes but not from those whose legislation does not contain that requirement.

In Resolution XX the Executive Committee concurred with the proposals of the Director and recommended to the Directing Council that it approve them.

Malaria Eradication

The Executive Committee considered the provisional program and budget estimates for the eradication of malaria in 1969 submitted by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, and voiced its special concern about future difficulties in adequately financing malaria eradication programs in the Americas, since the generous contributions of the Government of the United States of the Special Malaria Eradication Fund were about to finish in 1970. In view of that situation the Executive Committee requested the Governments to make contributions to the Special Malaria Eradication Fund of the Pan American Health Organization and thanked the Government of the United States of America for its valuable contributions to that Fund and for the loans it has made to certain countries to enable them to carry out their programs and requested that it continue to make such contributions in the future.

Representation of the Executive Committee at the XVIII Meeting of the Directing Council, XX Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas

In view of the absence of its Chairman, Dr. Roberto Acosta Borrero, the Executive Committee designated Dr. Guillermo Molina DeFranc (Ecuador) who had

presided over the 59th Meeting of the Executive Committee to officially represent it at the XVIII Meeting of the Directing Council.

It has been a great honor and pleasure for me to give this succinct and objective report of the most important decisions adopted by the Executive Committee. I should like to express my sincere appreciation to the Members of the Committee for the trust they placed in me by designating me to preside over their deliberations and to represent them at this important meeting.