



*executive committee of  
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN  
SANITARY  
ORGANIZATION

*working party of  
the regional committee*

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



25th Meeting  
Mexico, D. F.  
25 April - 3 May 1955

CE25/32 (Eng.)  
29 April 1955  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

RULES FOR TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS  
AT DIRECTING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Approved by the Executive Committee at its Seventh Plenary Session, held on 29 April 1955 (Resolution XI). These Rules are based on the proposal presented by the Director (Document CE25/9), related to Topic 15-b of the Agenda.

RULES FOR TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS  
AT DIRECTING COUNCIL MEETINGS

PART I

Selection of the Topic for Technical Discussions

- Art. 1 - The Pan American Sanitary Conference, or the Directing Council, as the case may be, shall select the topic for the technical discussions to be held during the ensuing meeting of the Council. The Pan American Sanitary Conference or the Directing Council may delegate the selection of this topic to the Executive Committee.
- Art. 2 - The purpose of the technical discussions shall be to deal with matters of regional interest related to the activities of the Pan American Sanitary Organization and the National Public Health Administrations, the study of which may produce immediate and practical results.
- Art. 3 - The technical discussions shall be limited to one topic.
- Art. 4 - The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall, at the earliest possible date, inform the Members, Territories, and Organizations entitled to representation, of the topic selected for the technical discussions.

PART II

Designation and Duties of the Expert

- Art. 5 - The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall designate an expert to present an introductory statement on the topic selected for the technical discussions.
- Art. 6 - The Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall place at the disposal of the designated expert such background material as he may consider useful in the preparation of his statement.
- Art. 7 - The expert shall receive adequate remuneration for his work, in addition to expenses for a trip to the seat of Bureau Headquarters, in the event he resides elsewhere.

- Art. 8 - The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall transmit to the Members, Territories, and Organizations entitled to representation, a copy of the introductory statement prepared by the expert, at least thirty days before the scheduled opening date of the Directing Council meeting at which the technical discussions are to be held.
- Art. 9 - The expert shall submit the introductory statement on the technical discussions to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau in sufficient time to permit it to be translated into Spanish or English, or both, and to be reproduced and distributed to the Members, Territories, and Organizations entitled to representation, within the time limit set in the preceding article.
- Art. 10- The Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall not be held responsible for the opinions and ideas expressed in the introductory statement.

### PART III

#### Installation of the Technical Discussions

- Art. 11- The Chairman of the Directing Council, upon completion of the discussion of the Council agenda, shall set the time for the opening of the technical discussions, and shall convene the first special session.
- Art. 12- A Moderator and a Rapporteur for the technical discussions shall be elected by majority vote of the participants present and voting who are members of the delegations represented on the Directing Council.
- Art. 13- The Moderator so elected shall immediately take the Chair, and will organize the work of the technical discussions in seminar form.
- Art. 14- The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall appoint a Technical Secretary to assist the Moderator and the Rapporteur during the technical discussions.

### PART IV

#### Nature of, and Participation in, the Technical Discussions

- Art. 15- The technical discussions are not of an official character and do not form part of the business of the Directing Council proper.

- Art. 16 - The documents pertaining to the technical discussions shall be issued by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau separately from the documents of the Directing Council.
- Art. 17 - All members may participate in the technical discussions, whether they be delegates, alternates, or advisers of the delegations represented on the Directing Council at whose meeting the technical discussions are held.
- Art. 18 - Representatives of the international organizations, inter-governmental and nongovernmental, maintaining official relations with the World Health Organization or the Pan American Sanitary Organization, may participate in the technical discussions, with the previous consent of the Moderator.
- Art. 19 - Persons participating in the technical discussions attend in their personal capacities.

#### PART V

##### Discussions and Reports

- Art. 20 - The technical discussions shall open with a statement by the expert designated by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, in which he will give a brief summary of the introductory paper prepared for the discussions.
- Art. 21 - The Directing Council shall not meet on the day the technical discussions are held.
- Art. 22 - No minutes of the sessions shall be kept; the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the Technical Secretary, shall prepare a summary of the discussions.
- Art. 23 - The Rapporteur shall present his report at a special session to be held prior to the date set for the closing of the Directing Council meeting.
- Art. 24 - The report of the Rapporteur shall present the majority opinion together with any minority or individual opinions expressed in the course of the technical discussions.
- Art. 25 - The report of the Rapporteur shall contain no recommendation or proposed resolution for consideration by the Directing Council.
- Art. 26 - At the closing session of the Directing Council, the Moderator shall present a summary of the activities conducted during the technical discussions. The Directing Council shall take note of this report without opening a discussion thereon.