



*executive committee of  
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION

*working party of  
the regional committee*

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



46th Meeting  
Washington, D. C.  
April 1962

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21 April 1962  
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Item 14: ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE XVI PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,  
XIV MEETING OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF WHO

At its fifteenth plenary session, the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council considered the first report presented by the Director on the arrangements for the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference. In that report (Document CD13/4) the Director:

- a) Informed the Directing Council of the steps taken by the Bureau to determine the obligations of the Host Government and of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau with respect to the organization and financing of the Conference;
- b) Suggested to the Council that the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference be organized in the same way as the two previous Conferences, held in Chile (1954) and in Puerto Rico (1958), i.e., on the basis of plenary sessions and the establishment of two main committees: Committee I, to study technical matters, including the topic for the Technical Discussions and Committee II, to deal with administrative, financial, and legal matters (both Committees may set up working parties to study particular items in detail); and
- c) Informed the Council of the recommendation approved by the Executive Committee at its 43rd Meeting that Technical Discussions be held at the XVI Conference in the same way as at previous Conferences and that an Inter-American Conference of Public Health not be organized on that occasion.

The XIII Meeting of the Directing Council, after considering the report of the Director, passed a resolution authorizing the Director to adopt such measures as might be necessary to organize the Secretariat Services for the XVI Conference so that the business of the Conference might be dealt with in plenary sessions and in committee meetings; and requested the Director to report to the 46th Meeting of the Executive Committee on the organization of the Conference.

The Director wishes to inform the Executive Committee about the new situation that has arisen with respect to the holding of the Conference. In his letter dated 4 April 1962 (see Annex I) Dr. Tiburcio Padilla, the Minister of Social Welfare and Public Health, informed the Director that because of the unforeseen circumstances in which the Government of Argentina finds itself it is compelled to decline the honor its sister Republics conferred on it to hold the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference in Buenos Aires. The Meeting was to be held from 20 August to 6 September 1962, in accordance with the Letter of Convocation dated 20 February (CT-CL-3-62).

On 13 April the Director informed the Governments by cable of the above-mentioned letter and sent them a copy of it under cover of the Circular Letter of 17 April. In that Circular Letter he stated that the Executive Committee could examine the situation created by the decision of the Government of Argentina at its 46th Meeting when dealing with the agenda item that is the subject of this document. He also said that the Committee could consider the action to be recommended in these circumstances, in the light of the broad powers conferred on it by Article 14 of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization.

Dr. José A. Mora, Secretary General of the Organization of American States, informed the Director that on 12 April 1962 he had received a letter from the Delegation of the Republic of Argentina to the Organization of American States, apprising him that the Government of Argentina regretted that "it could not maintain its offer of the city of Buenos Aires as the site of the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference, XIV Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO" (see Annex II).

1. Steps to be taken in connection with the Conference

The Director also wishes to report to the Executive Committee on the following matters related to the organization of the Conference:

a) Rules of Procedure for the Conference

Article 8 of the Constitution provides that the Conference shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

In compliance with Resolutions XXX and XXXIV of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference, the Executive Committee at its 36th Meeting held in October 1958 established a Subcommittee to study the Basic Documents of the Pan American Health Organization. This Subcommittee also reviewed the Rules of Procedure for the Pan American Sanitary Conference and submitted them to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council, held in Washington D. C. in 1961. The XIII Directing Council recommended in Resolution XXXVII that the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference adopt the revisions in the Rules of Procedure of the Conference proposed by the Subcommittee, as further modified by the Subcommittee and by a working party of the Council.

Item 3 of the Agenda of the Conference deals with the Rules of Procedure.

- b) Reports of the Governments of the Organization on Public Health Conditions and Progress Achieved during the Period between the XV and XVI Pan American Sanitary Conferences

This item is also on the agenda of the Conference, in conformity with Resolution XV of the III Meeting of the Directing Council (Peru, 1949), which recommended that "Member States present, at each Pan American Sanitary Conference, a written report, preferably of a statistical nature, on the work accomplished between Conferences."

The XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference (Chile, 1954) declared in Resolution XXIV that "the Summary of Reports of the Member States, 1950-1953, prepared by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, is a valuable document for providing knowledge of the health problems of the Americas and for coordinating health programs." The XV Pan American Sanitary Conference (Puerto Rico, 1958), in Resolution XXXVII, resolved "to recommend to the Member countries that they take the necessary measures to have their report on health conditions, which they will prepare for the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference, include complete information in the various fields of statistics", and requested the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to collaborate by providing technical services to aid the countries in obtaining such statistical information required for the preparation of the four-year report to be presented at the Conference.

With a view to assisting in this effort and to facilitate the comparability of information, the Bureau sent to the Governments of the Organization, on 8 July 1960, a set of forms to be completed and transmitted to the Bureau for use in preparing the summary statistical report. The same forms are being used by the World Health Organization for the Second Report on the World Health Situation.

The important data in these reports will undoubtedly throw light on public health conditions and problems that merit special study, and the examination of that information will serve as a guide in the formulation and coordination of health programs in the Americas.

To derive the fullest benefit from this presentation the Director submits to the Executive Committee for consideration the following proposed procedure for the discussion of the reports at the Conference (Item 29 of the draft agenda):

- a) The document summarizing the four-year reports of the Member Governments will be presented in plenary session.
- b) Delegates of governments that wish to supplement the information on their respective countries may take the floor immediately after presentation of the document.

- c) On completion of the delegations' oral reports, specific points on public health problems that are considered to warrant special study will be selected for examination by Committee I (Technical Matters).

## 2. Place of the Conference

As it is now no longer possible to proceed with the original arrangements for the holding of the Conference, it has become necessary to select an alternative site for this purpose.

In the absence of any other invitation and in view of the short period of time remaining for the necessary material arrangements to be made, the Executive Committee might consider that it would be appropriate that these arrangements be now made in order that the XVI Conference be held at Headquarters, taking into account the provisions of Article 13 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference.

## 3. Date of the Conference

Because all the preparations must again be started, the date of the beginning of the Conference, which was scheduled for 20 August, will have to be put forward at least 15 days. This is considered the minimum delay necessary to complete the essential preparations. All aspects of this problem have been thoroughly examined and, as a result, the Director wishes to suggest that the Conference be held from 3 to 21 September, provided that the necessary arrangements for premises and services for the successful conduct of the meeting can be made.

The Director submits this report to the Executive Committee so that it may serve them as background information for recommending the appropriate measures.

República Argentina  
Poder Ejecutivo Nacional  
MINISTERIO DE ASISTENCIA SOCIAL  
Y SALUD PUBLICA

BUENOS AIRES, 4 de abril de 1962.-

Señor Director de la Organización  
Panamericana de la Salud  
Doctor Abraham Horwitz  
1501 New Hampshire Av.  
Washington

En el curso de la XV Conferencia Sanitaria Panamericana realizada en Puerto Rico, en el año 1958, nuestro Gobierno formuló invitación, que fué aceptada, para que la próxima reunión de la XVI Conferencia Sanitaria Panamericana tuviera lugar en nuestro país.

En virtud de ello, nos abocamos a la tarea de su organización, en los aspectos de responsabilidad del Gobierno; y la Organización Panamericana de la Salud convocó a la Reunión que debía realizarse en Buenos Aires, del 20 de agosto al 6 de septiembre próximo.

Hoy, el Gobierno Argentino, que enfrenta una situación circunstancial, considerando la alta responsabilidad que le significa ser sede de la Conferencia, en su participación y contribución al alcance de un máximo nivel de eficiencia en su organización y desarrollo, se ve ante el imperativo deber de declinar el honor que los países hermanos le confiarían, postponiendo para una ulterior oportunidad la reiteración de la invitación que formulara.

Estas circunstancias, dan oportunidad para reiterar las expresiones de nuestra permanente disposición a contribuir al logro de los altos propósitos de la Organización, y de una máxima eficiencia y adecuadas condiciones para el perfecto desarrollo de las reuniones de sus Organismos.

Al expresar al señor Director y por su intermedio a la Organización, en nombre de nuestro país, nuestro agradecimiento por la distinción conferida, reitero las expresiones de mi mayor consideración.

(fdo) Dr. Tiburcio Padilla  
Ministro de Asistencia Social  
y Salud Pública

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES  
ORGANIZACION DE LOS ESTADOS AMERICANOS  
ORGANIZAÇÃO DOS ESTADOS AMERICANOS  
ORGANISATION DES ETATS AMERICAINS

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PAN AMERICAN UNION  
Washington 6, D.C., U.S.A.  
Cable address: PAU WASH D C

12 de abril de 1962

Estimado Doctor Horwitz:

A continuación tengo el honor de transcribir, para su conocimiento y fines consiguientes, el texto de la comunicación que con fecha de hoy recibí de la Delegación de la República Argentina ante la Organización de los Estados Americanos:

Washington, D.C., Abril 12 de 1962

OEA No. 29

Señor Secretario General:

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a Usted a fin de llevar a su conocimiento que, muy a pesar suyo, el Gobierno de la República Argentina lamenta no poder ratificar el ofrecimiento de la ciudad de Buenos Aires como sede de la XVI Conferencia Sanitaria Panamericana y XVI Reunión del Comité Regional de la OMS.

Saludo al Señor Secretario General con mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

(Fdo.) Aldo D. Fraticelli  
Secretario de Embajada  
Encargado de Negocios A.I.

Aprovecho la oportunidad para reiterar a usted las seguridades de mi consideración más distinguida.

José A. Mora  
Secretario General

Señor Doctor  
Don Abraham Horwitz  
Director  
Oficina Sanitaria Panamericana  
Washington, D. C.