

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY ORGANIZATION

INDEXED

Washington, D. C.  
May 23-30, 1949

## TOPIC VI. SURVEY OF MEDICAL EDUCATION CENTERS

## I. BACKGROUND

The Executive Committee of the Pan American Sanitary Organization, at its Sixth Meeting, held in Mexico City, October 1-8, 1948, instructed the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to present to the Seventh Meeting of the Committee plans for a factual survey of educational institutions for public health and medical studies in the American countries (Document OSP.CE6.M/-2, October 13, 1948).

The Director has consulted with doctors from various parts of the Hemisphere who have had considerable experience with such surveys and has received a very enthusiastic response. Many of the specialists consulted have made excellent suggestions, sent copies of reports, submitted sets of forms used in similar surveys, and several have indicated their willingness to make their services available for certain periods of time.

## II. PROGRAM

The following program is submitted to the Executive Committee for its consideration:

1. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall appoint one well-qualified person to the staff of the Bureau to be responsible for the survey; to travel in the countries where studies are being made and to handle all documents pertaining to the survey.

2. The Director of the Bureau shall appoint an outstanding member of the medical profession in each country or region being surveyed to work with the staff member, in the capacity of Special Consultant to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. Since it is considered that the Special Consultants will devote their entire time, during this period of study, to the survey, it is proposed that they receive a financial compensation of \$600 per month and \$20 per diem. In addition, these Consultants will be given a special diploma in recognition of their work toward the advancement of medical education in the Western Hemisphere.

3. The Director of the Bureau may appoint the Special Consultants as members of the Pan American Commission for the Study of Public Health and Medical Teaching for the periods required to complete the work.

4. Before initiating any study, the health authorities of each country shall be consulted about suitable time periods and preferred methods for conducting the studies. Countries which request the assistance of the Bureau in completing studies already in process or in initiating studies will be given first consideration.

5. The main objective of the survey shall be to obtain factual information for use in a simple presentation of findings without criticism or recommendation. The pertinent information will be published in tabular form.

### III. RECOMMENDATION

The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau recommends that the Executive Committee approve and give full support to the proposed plan, and that it request the complete and whole-hearted cooperation of all the countries of the Western Hemisphere in conducting the survey.

Fred L. Soper