



directing council

PAN AMERICAN
SANITARY
ORGANIZATION

VII Meeting

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

V Meeting



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Topic 31: RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE WORLD
HEALTH ORGANIZATION

The Director-General of the World Health Organization has requested the Director of the Bureau to bring to the attention of the Regional Committee Resolution WHA6.38, adopted by the Sixth World Health Assembly (1953) (Annex I) inviting the Regional Committee to comment on the advisability of changes in the rights and obligations of Associate Members in the Regional Committee.

Resolution WHA2.103 of the Second World Health Assembly (1949) provides inter alia that, except in the American Region,

"Associate Members shall have all rights and obligations in the Regional Organizations, with the exception that they will have no vote in plenary meetings of the Regional Committee, nor in subdivisions dealing with finance or constitutional matters."

The exception of the application of the above-mentioned resolution was made by the Assembly, because the agreement between the World Health Organization and the Pan American Sanitary Organization, of 24 May, 1949, provides that the Pan American Sanitary Conference, through the Directing Council of the Pan American Sanitary Organization, shall serve as the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Western Hemisphere and since the Pan American Sanitary Conference and the Directing Council are duly constituted under the Pan American Sanitary Code (Treaty Havana 1924) and the Constitution of the PASO (Buenos Aires 1947), action by the Council or by the Conference is required to alter their memberships.

It is obvious that so long as the present agreement exists, the competent bodies of the PASO must determine the constitution of the Conference and of the Directing Council which serve as the Regional Committee of the WHO for the Americas.

Possibly the Directing Council will wish to reply to the invitation of the Assembly with a resolution suggesting continued exemption of the Regional Committee for the Americas from any action in this matter contemplated by the World Health Assembly.

RESOLUTION WHA6.38

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

The Sixth World Health Assembly,

Having noted the report of the Executive Board on its consideration of the rights and obligations of Associate Members in regional committees,¹

1. RESOLVES that it is premature to adopt any changes in the existing rights and obligations of Associate Members as defined in resolution WHA2.103, and
2. RESOLVES that the WHO regional committees shall be invited to comment on the advisability of any such changes.

(Ninth plenary meeting,
20 May 1953, A6/VR/9)

¹ See Annex II

RESOLUTION EB11.R26

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS IN
REGIONAL COMMITTEES

The Executive Board

- I. Pursuant to the resolution on the rights and obligations of Associate Members adopted by the Board at its tenth session,¹ and

Having considered a report made by the Director-General on the results obtained from his communication with Member States on this subject,

1. RECOMMENDS to the Sixth World Health Assembly that Associate Members should be given the right to vote in the meetings of Regional Committees and, further

2. RECOMMENDS that the following resolution should be adopted:

"The Sixth World Health Assembly

"Having considered a report of the Executive Board on the rights and obligations of Associate Members and

"Noting a recommendation of the Board that Associate Members should be given the right to vote in meetings of Regional Committees,

1. RESOLVES to amend paragraph 3(2) of resolution WHA2.103 of the Second World Health Assembly by deleting the phrase 'with the exception that they will have no vote in plenary meetings of the Regional Committee, nor in sub-divisions dealing with finance or constitutional matters', so that the paragraph now reads: 'Associate Members shall have all rights and obligations in the Regional Organizations.'"

- II. Believing that the Sixth World Health Assembly might wish to reconsider the scale of assessments for Associate Members in the light of the foregoing action; and

After reviewing the decisions taken on the scale of assessments for Associate Members by the Second World Health Assembly,¹ by the Executive Board at its fourth session² and by the Third World Health Assembly,³

RECOMMENDS also the adoption of the following resolution:

"The Sixth World Health Assembly

"Having decided to change the rights of Associate Members in Regional Committees,

1. CONSIDERS that this increase in rights should carry with it an increase in obligations; and, therefore
2. DECIDES that for 1954 and future years the assessment of all Associate Members should be established at four units."

(Eighth and ninth meetings
15 and 16 January 1953)

¹Off. Rec. World Hlth Org. 21, 42, resolution WHA2.70

²Off. Rec. World Hlth Org. 22, 11, resolution [EB4.R14]

³Off. Rec. World Hlth Org. 28, 53, resolution WHA3.86