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WORLD
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Topic 33: WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY PROCEDURES FOR EXAMINING THE PROGRAM,
BUDGET, AND ANCILLARY ADMINISTRATIVE, FINANCIAL, AND
PERSONNEL MATTERS

The Director-General of the World Health Organization has requested that Resolution WHA10.27, adopted by the Tenth World Health Assembly, be brought to the attention of the Regional Committee, as follows:

"The Tenth World Health Assembly,

Having examined the procedures for examining the annual programme and budget of the World Health Organization; and

Considering that it is in the interests of WHO, in the light of Article 18 of its Constitution, to study new methods for the improvement of present procedures,

DECIDES:

- (1) that it is desirable that the Executive Board should make a new study of the procedures in question at its session in January 1958, bearing in mind the priorities to be established in regard to classification of the projects of the programme and budget; and
- (2) to request the Director-General to report to the Eleventh World Health Assembly, on the basis of the Executive Board's study and after consultation with the regional committees."

The Tenth World Health Assembly had before it a draft resolution submitted by the Government of Canada^{1/} incorporating the proposals of that Government on the Assembly procedures.

^{1/} Annex I (A10/AFL/26), attached.

The resolution quoted above was adopted by the Health Assembly after its Committee on Administration, Finance, and Legal Matters had given consideration in the course of several meetings to proposals of the Government of Canada, which had in the first instance been submitted to the Executive Board at its Nineteenth Session. The Executive Board had studied these proposals and in Resolution EB19.R54 transmitted them to the Tenth World Health Assembly without recommendation.

The details of the proposals of the Canadian Government are contained in the Report of the Nineteenth Session of the Executive Board (Off. Rec. 76, pages 106 and 107). On pages 108-114 of the same Official Record is the report submitted by the Director-General to the Executive Board, containing a review of the procedures adopted in the past by the World Health Assembly and Executive Board as well as the history of relations between the World Health Organization and the UN Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. Finally, on pages 114-136 is the statement made by the representative of the Government of Canada to the Board at its Nineteenth Session, as well as the records of the discussions on the subject in the Board and its Standing Committee on Administration and Finance.

The Regional Committee is invited to express its views on the various aspects of the proposals of the Government of Canada as well as on any other aspects of the procedures to be followed in the examination of the program and budget estimates of the Organization. This would enable the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board the views of the Regional Committee in order to facilitate the study which the Board is to undertake in January 1958.

The Committee may wish to refer particularly to certain of the aspects of the proposals of the Canadian Government. As will be seen from Annex I to this document, the Canadian proposals have three distinct features, i.e.:

(a) the establishment by the Health Assembly of a budget working group consisting of 15 delegates of as many Members;

(b) a detailed study of the administrative aspects of the proposed program and budget estimates by the UN Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; and

(c) the allocation of priorities to projects.

The views of the Regional Committees on point (c) above, allocation of priorities to projects, will be of particular importance to the Board in its study, since it would be expected to be the responsibility of Regional Committees to review and recommend such classifications in the first instance, should such a procedure be adopted.

ASSEMBLY PROCEDURES FOR EXAMINING THE PROGRAM, BUDGET, AND
ANCILLARY ADMINISTRATIVE, FINANCIAL, AND PERSONNEL MATTERS

(Resolution submitted to the Tenth World Health Assembly
by the Delegation of Canada)*

The Tenth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the procedures for examining the annual programme
and budget,

Believing that it is in the interests of the World Health Organization
to explore new methods with a view to improving present procedures,

DECIDES :

A. BUDGET WORKING GROUP

1. To establish, on an experimental basis, a Budget Working Group as a committee of the Eleventh and Twelfth World Health Assemblies;
2. That the Budget Working Group shall consist of 15 delegates of as many members;
3. That the World Health Assembly shall elect the members of the Budget Working Group after consideration of a report of the Committee on Nominations, which shall have regard to an equitable geographic distribution. The Budget Working Group shall be elected by the Assembly preceding the Assembly at which it will operate;
4. That the Budget Working Group shall conduct a detailed examination of the Programme and Budget for 1959 and 1960 and shall report its views, as appropriate, to the Committee on Programme and Budget and to Committee on Administration, Finance and Legal Matters;
5. To recommend to the Twelfth World Health Assembly that it consider whether or not to continue the Budget Working Group for an additional period in the light of the experience gained.

B. UNITED NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

1. To invite the General Assembly of the United Nations to make available its Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to make, for the World Health Assembly, a detailed study of the administrative aspects of the proposed Programme and Budget of the World Health Organization, either the 1959 budget to be studied early in 1958 or the 1960 budget to be studied early in 1959;

2. To instruct the Director-General, in consultation with the Executive Board, to make the necessary administrative and other arrangements for such a study.

C. PRIORITIES

1. To request the Executive Board, with the assistance of the Director-General and after consultation with the Regional Committees, to study the problem of allocation of priorities to projects included in the annual Programme and Budget proposed by the Director-General;

2. To request the Executive Board to submit a report on this subject, with recommendations, to the Eleventh World Health Assembly.