

directing council



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XXI Meeting

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



XXIV Meeting

Santiago, Chile
October 1972

Provisional Agenda Item 7

CD21/19 (Eng.)
11 September 1972
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Submitted by Dr. Baltazar Caravedo, Representative of Peru)

I have the honor to submit to the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council the prescribed report of the Executive Committee on its work since October 1971 to date, during which period it held its 67th and 68th Meetings.

67th Meeting of the Executive Committee

The 67th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization was held in the Headquarters Building in Washington, D.C., on 8 October 1971, in accordance with the convocation of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. The following members of the Committee attended the Meeting:

Dr. A. V. Wells, O.B.E	BARBADOS
Dr. Hugo Victorino Alquères	BRAZIL
Dr. B. D. B. Layton	CANADA
Dr. Alberto Aguilar	EL SALVADOR
Dr. Robert L. S. Baird	GUYANA
Dr. Carlos A. Pineda	HONDURAS
Dr. Baltazar Caravedo	PERU
Dr. S. Paul Ehrlich, Jr.	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Dr. Rogelio Valladares	VENEZUELA
Mr. Joseba A. Lascaraín	

As the outgoing Chairman, Dr. Rogelio Valladares (Venezuela) welcomed the Representatives of Barbados, Canada, and El Salvador, the members elected by the Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization to fill the vacancies that had occurred on the expiration of the terms of office of Argentina, Costa Rica, and Mexico.

The Committee then proceeded to elect its officers, Dr. Baltazar Caravedo Carranza (Peru) being elected Chairman, Dr. Victorino Alquéres Baptista (Brazil), Vice-Chairman, and Dr. Alberto Aguilar Rivas (El Salvador), Rapporteur.

The Executive Committee approved the agenda of the meeting prepared by the Director and immediately went on to examine the resolutions of the XX Meeting of the Directing Council, XXIII Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas, of interest to the Executive Committee.

Dr. Abraham Horwitz, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, reviewed the resolutions and drew attention, in particular, to Resolution II, which approved the entry of Canada into the Pan American Health Organization, thus completing the unity of the Americas in their search for better health and well-being for their inhabitants.

The Director emphasized that, in accordance with the normal procedure, the meeting of the Committee that would be held mid-year would be concerned, in particular, with the examination of the proposed program and budget estimates of the Pan American Health Organization for 1973 and the preliminary draft for 1974, as well as the proposed program and budget estimates of the World Health Organization for 1974 and possibly those for 1975 as well.

He pointed out that in Resolution XVI relating to the Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the World Health Organization for the Region of the Americas for 1974, the Director General was requested to give favorable consideration to increasing the proportion assigned to the Region of the Americas, without, however, increasing the total budget of the World Health Organization. It would therefore be necessary to carefully review the decisions taken by the World Health Assembly in 1973.

With reference to Resolution XXVII, Meeting of Ministers of Health, he pointed out that the necessary steps would be taken to convoke and organize it in accordance with the recommendations of the Working Group. He emphasized the importance of that meeting, which would formulate the policy and establish the health targets for the coming decade.

The Director next dealt with Resolution XXII, Poliomyelitis Control, which authorized the establishment of a special fund whose formation and maintenance would depend on contributions from the Member Governments. He

stated that national health and education foundations, the model of which so far was that of Venezuela, might in the more or less immediate future assist the national authorities in immunization campaigns against the disease in various countries.

He pointed out in reference to Resolution XXII, PAHO Award for Administration, that it was necessary to appoint a representative to replace the Representative of Argentina since that country was no longer a Member of the Executive Committee. The Chairman suggested that Venezuela be designated to replace Argentina to form, together with the United States of America and Peru, the Committee for the PAHO Award for Administration, and that suggestion was unanimously approved.

In the course of the discussion it was agreed that at its next meeting the Committee should also study Resolution XII of the Directing Council relating to the collection of Members' quotas.

The Committee next considered the report on buildings and installations which was presented by Mr. Moore, Acting Chief of Administration. After briefly describing the situation of the Zone Offices in the various countries in the Region, he dealt in particular with the new building that would be built in Brasilia for the Zone V Office, since it would be transferred to that city in accordance with the decision of the Government that all Ministries, including the Health Ministry, would be transferred to the Capital. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau pointed out that the Government of Brazil had generously ceded a building plot for the use of the Organization, since in Brasilia there was no possibility of finding premises which could be rented or purchased for accommodating the Zone V Office. The cost of the building as planned, including a large lecture and meeting room amounted to US\$400,000. To finance that sum, thought had been given to selling the building in Rio de Janeiro at present housing the Zone Office, the commercial value of which was not less than US\$70,000. If the Executive Committee agreed, it was also intended to request the Director General of the World Health Organization to propose to the next World Health Assembly that the WHO Real Estate Fund earmark a contribution for that work and, in addition, it was planned to ask the Government of Brazil to contribute, if possible, an additional amount for the financing of the educational building, which could be used by the University of Brasilia. The balance could be covered by a loan from Riggs National Bank, which administered the accounts of the Organization and which had offered very favorable terms.

After fully discussing the various aspects of the project, the Executive Committee adopted a resolution expressing its thanks to the Government of Brazil for its generous contribution of the building site for the Zone V Office in Brasilia and approving the proposed plan for the construction of the building as a whole, including facilities for seminars and meetings. It also authorized the Director to undertake consultations

with the Government of Brazil with a view to exploring the possibility of obtaining additional funds for construction as well as to request the Director General of the World Health Organization to submit to the 1973 Assembly a request for financial support from the WHO Real Estate Fund. Finally, it decided to authorize the use of a loan to finance the remainder of the construction on the understanding that the Director should seek specific authorization from the Executive Committee as soon as the amount required was determined.

Then Dr. Horwitz, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, dealt with the building for the Pan American Center for Sanitary Engineering and Environmental Sciences in Lima, and stated that the Government of Peru had ceded 2,500 meters of land in a real estate development bordering on a park and had guaranteed US\$120,000 for the construction of the building.

The Members of the Executive Committee expressed their satisfaction with the generous action of the Government of Peru, and approved a resolution thanking that Government for its generous contribution for the construction of the building, to be used as the Headquarters for the Pan American Center for Sanitary Engineering and Environmental Sciences, and requested the Director to send the resolution to all the Member Governments of the Organization.

The Secretary then recalled that at the 66th Meeting of the Executive Committee the Representative of Venezuela had raised the question of the need to establish a uniform procedure for the review by the Executive Committee of the documents on the program and budget estimates of the Organization. The Director had studied the matter carefully and expressed the interest of the Secretariat in the Executive Committee making a more thorough examination of the various programs of the Organization. To that end, a document would be prepared for submission to the 68th Meeting of the Executive Committee, setting forth different alternatives for a more detailed examination of the program and budget estimates of the Organization.

The Committee decided to authorize the Director to select the most suitable dates for the 68th Meeting of the Executive Committee after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee.

68th Meeting of the Executive Committee

The 68th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization was held at the Headquarters Building in Washington, D.C. from 5 to 14 July 1972, as convened by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Dr. Baltazar Caravedo Carranza (Peru) served as Chairman; Dr. Victorino Alquéres Baptista (Brazil) as Vice-Chairman; and Dr. Alberto Aguilar Rivas (El Salvador) as Rapporteur.

The following Members of the Committee and observers attended the meeting:

Members

Dr. A. V. Wells Mr. A. F. Daniel	BARBADOS
Dr. Hugo V. Alquéres Mr. Celso Amorim Mr. Luiz Henrique Pereira da Fonseca	BRAZIL
Dr. B. D. B. Layton Dr. Ross A. Chapman Mr. Robert Showman	CANADA
Dr. Alberto Aguilar Rivas Dr. Juan Allwood Paredes	EL SALVADOR
Dr. Robert L. S. Baird	GUYANA
Dr. Carlos A. Pineda Muñoz Dr. Manuel Enrique Larios Bonilla	HONDURAS
Dr. Baltazar Caravedo Dr. Andrés Bello Escribens	PERU
Dr. S. Paul Ehrlich, Jr. Dr. Robert de Caires Mr. John L. Hagan	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Dr. Rogelio Valladares Dr. Daniel Orellana Mr. Rafael Enrique Luma	VENEZUELA

Secretary ex officio

Dr. Abraham Horwitz, Director	PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU
-------------------------------	---------------------------------

Observers

Dr. José Manuel Borgoño Dr. Héctor Acuña	CHILE MEXICO
---	-----------------

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Organization of American States

Dr. Jesse Perkinson
Mr. O. Howard Salzman

Inter-American Development Bank

Mr. Luis Ratinoff

The 68th Meeting of the Executive Committee held 16 plenary sessions and a closing session. Eleven plenary sessions were devoted to a detailed examination of the Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the Pan American Health Organization prepared by the Director pursuant to Article 14-C of the Constitution.

At the First Plenary Session, which was held on 5 July, the Executive Committee approved the Agenda prepared by the Secretariat.

Financial Report of the Director and the Report of the External Auditor for 1971. The Executive Committee examined the Financial Report of the Director and the Report of the External Auditor for 1971. It recognized that the financial condition of the Organization was better than at the same time in the previous year owing to the fact that a larger amount of contributions had been received from the Member Countries. The Executive Committee took note of the circumstances with satisfaction and recommended to the Director that he continue the policy of prudently handling funds and endeavor to maintain budgetary expenditures within income and build up the Working Capital Fund.

Report on the Collection of Quotas. The Executive Committee considered the Report of the Director on the Collection of Quota Contributions. After carefully examining the matter, it expressed its satisfaction with the fact that in the first half of 1972 a higher percentage of quotas had been received than the average at the same period in previous years. However, it noted that there were still five countries more than two years in arrears, of which only two (Bolivia and Haiti) had an approved payment plan for liquidating their arrears, and that three of them (Dominican Republic, Paraguay, and Uruguay) had not taken the necessary steps in that regard. It pointed out that the prompt and full payment of quotas was essential to ensure the financing of the programs being carried out in the countries at the request of the national authorities. The Committee decided to establish a Working Group to prepare a draft resolution on the item, composed of the following Representatives: Dr. B. D. B. Layton (Canada); Dr. Robert de Caires (United States of America); Dr. Robert L. S. Baird (Guyana);

Dr. Daniel Orellana (Venezuela); and Dr. Alberto Aguilar Rivas (El Salvador), Rapporteur of the Committee. That Group recommended, and the Executive Committee approved, a resolution requesting the Director to again direct the attention of the Governments to the difficulties created for the Organization by delays in the payment of quotas. It also recommended to the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council that, in order to avert the application of Article 6-B of the Constitution, it appoint a working group at the First Plenary Session to meet with Representatives of the countries in arrears with a view to working out a practical immediate plan for liquidation of arrears and that Article 6-B of the Constitution relating to the suspension of voting rights be applied to those countries which did not respond satisfactorily.

Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the Pan American Health Organization for 1973. The Executive Committee devoted 10 plenary sessions to the study and detailed examination of the Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the Pan American Health Organization for 1973 (Official Document No. 114), prepared by the Director after consultation with national authorities. It reviewed the various programs contained in the document and requested additional and supplementary information in some cases, which was supplied by the staff of the Bureau responsible for the programs. It also expressed the desire of the Governments to reduce expenditures whenever possible without prejudice to the programs, for which purpose the Committee decided to request the Director to review the program and budget estimates and to endeavor to identify possible areas in which savings could be effected and to report thereon to the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council. It also recommended to the Directing Council that for 1973 it approve an effective budget of US\$19,583,540.

Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the World Health Organization for the Region of the Americas for 1974. In studying and reviewing Official Document No. 114 mentioned above, the Executive Committee also considered the Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the World Health Organization for the Region of the Americas for 1974 and decided to recommend to the Directing Council that it approve the relevant proposal and request the Regional Director to submit it to the Director General of the World Health Organization so that he might take it into consideration in preparing the WHO budget estimates for 1974. It also recommended to the Directing Council that it confirm the request made in the previous year that the Director General give favorable consideration to increasing the proportion assigned to the Region of the Americas.

Provisional Draft of the Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the Pan American Health Organization for 1974. The Executive Committee also examined the preliminary draft of the Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the Pan American Health Organization for 1974 and recognized that it contained projects corresponding to the real needs of the countries defined in cooperation with national authorities. It therefore decided to

recommend to the Directing Council that it request the Director to use the preliminary draft as a basis for preparing the Proposed Program and Budget Estimates of the Pan American Health Organization for 1974, after further consultations with the governments to determine their latest desires and requirements in relation to the health priorities of the countries.

V Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Zoonoses Control. The Executive Committee considered the Final Report of the V Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Zoonoses Control, which was held in Mexico in April 1972. It decided to request the Director to transmit the report to the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council and recommended that it approve a resolution expressing its satisfaction with the progress achieved in the control of foot-and-mouth disease and other zoonoses, in which the ministries of agriculture and health of the countries had collaborated, emphasizing the need to strengthen the coordination of activities carried out by the ministries of agriculture and health through the establishment of joint commissions which would make it possible to undertake effective campaigns against those diseases, expressing its concern about the hazards involved in the indiscriminate use of pesticides in agriculture, and recommending to the Director that he urge the governments to adopt the measures recommended at the above-mentioned meeting.

Cost-Benefit Study on the Prevention of Aedes aegypti-borne Diseases. Since the cost-benefit study on the prevention of Aedes aegypti-borne diseases in the Americas, which was entrusted to a specialized firm in accordance with Resolution XXIII of the XX Meeting of the Directing Council had been completed, the Executive Committee decided to request the Director to give the report a wide distribution in the countries of the Region in order to obtain the comments and suggestions of the responsible authorities, and to express its thanks to the Governments of the United States of America and Trinidad and Tobago for their generous voluntary contributions to the financing of the study.

Country Reports on Health Conditions. The Executive Committee examined the document prepared by the Director which summarized the opinions of the countries on the best way of facilitating the formulation, presentation, and discussion of the reports which the Governments submit every four years to the Pan American Sanitary Conference. All the Members of the Executive Committee acknowledged the importance of those reports but at the same time emphasized the need to limit both their length and duration in order to maintain the interest of all participants. For that reason, it recommended that in preparing the reports special emphasis be laid on the changes and innovations introduced into the organization of the administration of health services, in particular, innovations of general interest. With respect to the length of the statements, it recommended to the next Pan American Sanitary Conference that it request the delegates to limit their statements to not more than four double-spaced typewritten pages and the time for reading

them to not more than 10 minutes. It suggested that, for the purpose of presentation, the delegates should previously be entered on the list of speakers. It also requested the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to write to the health authorities of the countries not less than six months before the date of the meeting of the Conference to remind them of the terms of the resolution.

Pan American Center for Health Planning. In implementation of Resolution XXIII of the 66th Meeting of the Executive Committee, the Director of the Pan American Center for Health Planning submitted a complete report on the operation of the Center and the activities undertaken there. The Committee took note of the report of the First Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Center, which was held in 1971. The Executive Committee endorsed the new orientation of the activities of the Center, especially the emphasis on information services and the training and updating of specialized manpower and research they are carrying out in the countries on planning problems. It recommended to the Director that he continue the negotiations being conducted with the United Nations Development Program with a view to the financing of the second phase of that important Center.

Pan American Center for Sanitary Engineering and Environmental Sciences. The Director of the Pan American Center for Sanitary Engineering and Environmental Sciences also submitted a report on the operation of the Center and the assistance it was giving to the countries in carrying out programs for the control of environmental pollution, as well as its activities for training, research, and dissemination of technical information. The Executive Committee expressed its full support for the technical assistance and scientific activities undertaken by the Center for the benefit of the countries and expressed its thanks to the Government of Peru for its generous contribution of a building plot for the construction of the building and its financial contribution to cover part of the cost of operation and equipment.

Engineering and Maintenance of Hospitals and other Health Services. The Executive Committee considered the report on the program of engineering and maintenance of hospitals and other health facilities submitted by the Government of Venezuela, as well as the additional information provided by the Director of the Bureau on activities being carried out in other countries in that field. It recognized that the maintenance of hospital buildings and their equipment is a general problem in most of the countries of the Americas, commended the Government of Venezuela for the success achieved in establishing the Center for Hospital Maintenance and Engineering in Caracas, and recommended to the governments that, when discussing programs with the UNDP Resident Representative, they request support for hospital engineering and maintenance projects in their countries.

Strengthening of Laboratory Services: Study on the Use of "Autoanalyzers." The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau presented a report on the use of automated equipment in strengthening public health laboratories in the countries, in compliance with Resolution VI of the 66th Meeting of the Executive Committee. The Committee recognized that, although that equipment was an important tool in improving the diagnostic services of health programs, its use still entailed problems that called for further study. It therefore requested the Director to continue the study and recommended that Member Countries that already had experience with that type of equipment furnish the Bureau with pertinent information.

Pan American Health University. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau presented a project entitled Pan American Health University, with a view to the establishment of a Pan American coordinating mechanism for raising the level of training of professional health workers. The Executive Committee discussed the various aspects of this important project in detail and decided to recommend to the Director that he continue to consult the governments and the universities on the feasibility of the project.

PAHO Award for Administration. The Executive Committee took note of the unanimous decision of the pertinent Committee to award the 1972 PAHO Award for Administration to Dr. Eduardo Zapata Salazar of Peru for his work on the study, preparation, and introduction of a model of a personnel administration system for the health sector in his country.

Agreement between the Pan American Health Organization and the Organization of Central American States (ODECA). The Executive Committee took note of the negotiations undertaken by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau with a view to concluding an agreement with the Organization of Central American States. It authorized him to continue these in order to formalize the relations between the two organizations and instructed him to report on the matter to the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council.

First Meeting of the Ministers of Health of the Countries of the Andean Area. The Executive Committee heard with satisfaction the report submitted by the Government of Peru on the First Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Countries of the Andean Area, held in December 1971 in Lima, took note of the report, and commended the Ministers of Health of Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela for the success of that important meeting.

Representation of the Executive Committee at the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO, XXIV Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas. The Committee decided to designate Dr. Hugo V. Alquéres Baptista, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee and Representative of Brazil, the alternate representative of the Executive Committee at the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization, XXIV Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas.

Report on Buildings and Installations. The Executive Committee considered the report of the Director on buildings and installations and, after noting with approval the plan for financing the construction costs of the building in Brasilia, which would serve as the headquarters of Zone V, authorized the Director to negotiate a loan for up to US\$200,000 with a bank or other financing institution.

Arrangements for the III Special Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Americas and for the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization, XXIV Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas. The Executive Committee took note of the report of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau on the arrangements for the III Special Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Americas, and for the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO, XXIV Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas. It authorized the Director to convoke the XXI Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO, XXIV Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas from 10 to 14 October, immediately following the III Special Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Americas, which will also be held in Santiago from 2 to 9 October 1972. The Executive Committee also approved the proposed agenda for both meetings and recommended to the Directing Council that, in addition to eliminating certain items on its provisional agenda, it postpone the Technical Discussions on Community Health Services and Community Involvement until the meeting of the Council in 1973.

Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the Bureau. The Executive Committee heard with great interest the statement of the Director on the celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, the oldest health organization in the world, and recognized the significance of this important event. It therefore decided to request the governments to give that event the importance it merited and authorized the Director, subject to budgetary limitations, to take the necessary measures to celebrate the 70 years of service to the health of the Americas of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to my colleagues representing the other Members of the Executive Committee, both for appointing me Chairman and for helping me to discharge my duties efficiently.