



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **9th DIRECTING COUNCIL**

9th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., 16 - 27 September 1956*

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CD9.R1***

### **RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL**

*THE 9<sup>th</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having examined the recommendations made by the Executive Committee in Resolution VI of its 28th Meeting on the interpretation that should be given to the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council with respect to the two-thirds majority vote and to a quorum;

Considering, moreover, the precedent set by the Directing Council for its work at previous meetings, and followed at the current meeting, whereby the Council does not establish main committees but discusses all topics at plenary sessions, appointing working parties to study certain topics; and

Considering that, consequently, the membership of the General Committee cannot include the Chairman of the main committees, as provided in Article 24 of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council, and it is therefore advisable to change this article,

#### ***RESOLVES***

1. To approve, in accordance with the recommendations of the Executive Committee, the following interpretation of the Rules of Procedure that relate to a quorum and to the vote required for the adoption of a resolution:

A resolution shall be considered adopted if it obtains a simple majority vote of the representatives of the Members who cast an affirmative or a negative vote, or a two-thirds majority in those instances in which a two-thirds majority is required by the Rules of Procedure or by decision of the Council in accordance with Article 6, paragraph B, of the Constitution. It is not necessary that the number of affirmative and negative votes cast in any particular case be equal to or greater than the number required to establish a quorum.

2. To approve the following amendments to the Rules of Procedure:

a) Amend Article 8 of the Rules of Procedure to read as follows: "The presence of a majority of representatives of the Members of the Directing Council shall be required to constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Council";

b) Insert a new Article, 8(a), to read as follows: "A majority of the representatives of the Members of the Directing Council participating in a meeting shall constitute a quorum in a plenary session, provided that the number is not less than ten"; and

c) In Article 10, substitute the words "this article" for the words "these Rules" at the beginning of the second sentence.

3. To amend also Article 24 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council so that it reads as follows: The General Committee shall consist of the Chairman of the Directing Council, who shall serve as the Chairman of the General Committee, the two Vice-Chairmen of the Directing Council, and four additional representatives who are not already serving on the General Committee. The Secretary of the Directing Council shall serve as Secretary of the General Committee, without the right to vote. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall serve as member ex-officio of the General Committee, without the right to vote.

*Sept. 1956 OD 18, 6*