



*executive committee of  
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN  
SANITARY  
ORGANIZATION

*working party of  
the regional committee*

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



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REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
ON THE PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET OF THE REGION OF  
THE AMERICAS, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, FOR 1954

The Working Group held its meeting on 11 September 1952. It was composed of the following members:

Dr. Frederick J. Brady	(United States) - Chairman
Dr. Nivaldo Telles	(Brazil)
Dr. César Vélez Morán	(Ecuador)
Dr. César Gordillo Zuleta	(Peru)
Dr. N. H. Swellengrebel	(Netherlands)
Dr. F. J. Rutten	( " )
Mr. Howard B. Calderwood	(United States)
Mr. Simon N. Wilson	( " )

The Working Group recommends the following Report for transmittal by the Executive Committee to the Regional Committee for the Americas.

The Directing Council, at its V Meeting, passed a Resolution (Resolution VII) requesting the Executive Committee to act as a Working Party on behalf of the Regional Committee of the Americas in reviewing the annual budget proposals of the WHO for the Region of the Americas. The Executive Committee has examined the Proposed Program and Budget of the Region of the Americas, World Health Organization, for 1954 (Document CE17/5) on behalf of the Regional Committee, and makes the following comments.

In the examination of the Document, use was made of the criteria indicated in Official Records No. 33, paragraph 44, as well as in other pertinent documents of the PASO and the WHO, such as Resolution V of the 16th Meeting of the Executive Committee relating to the planning of long-range public health programs.

The Executive Committee noted that the total amount of the proposed budget of the WHO for the Americas for 1954 was reduced by approximately \$7,000 from the figure for 1953. The Committee noted that the financial resources from the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance are expected to be decreased in 1954 by more than \$400,000. It was explained that this decrease does not necessarily represent a reduction in the projects that will be undertaken in 1954 but is due rather to an increased amount of funds presumably available in 1953 carried over from projects started in 1952. The document indicates an increase in the amount of extrabudgetary funds of over \$300,000; the total money available in the Region as a result of these various factors is approximately \$100,000 less than in 1953.

The Committee was informed that the proposals for field programs were based on requests received from the Member Governments and proposals suggested by the Zone Offices. The time available for the preparation of the budget did not permit consultation with all Members on all projects. The Committee was informed that there could be some elasticity in these proposals and that by 1954, changes may be necessary as the result of changed conditions within the Member Countries. The Regional Committee is advised not to attempt to make major alterations in country programs during its Fourth Meeting because alterations may be made at a later date when the Bureau representatives have an opportunity to confer more in detail with the national governments regarding projects.

The Committee noted the following size of staff employed at Headquarters and in the field for 1952, 1953 and 1954 and for all programs shown in the document:

	<u>Total Employees</u>		
	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Headquarters	240 (68%)	231 (45%)	222 (46%)
Field	111 (32%)	281 (55%)	266 (54%)
Total	351 (100%)	512 (100%)	488 (100%)

The form of presentation of the budget document and the method of making calculations appear to be identical with those used by the Director General. The Committee noted that estimates of local costs to be borne by recipient governments are not presently available but will be transmitted to the Director-General when they can be obtained.

Questions were raised with regard to the decrease in the amount of money to be made available in 1954 for advisory and demonstration services for tuberculosis and venereal disease. It was pointed out that these reductions resulted from the accumulated totals of projects requested by Governments and that they were due to completion of some projects in these fields and to the increase of support given to similar activities shown under the heading of Public Health Administration. In general, the balance between the effort being made to control certain communicable diseases and to assist countries in the development of their health services through programs to improve public health administration, maternal and child health and so forth, appear acceptable to the Committee. As in the past two years, considerable emphasis has been given to education and training services. Emphasis should continue to be given to the problems that are of greatest interest to the Region; these include the eradication of certain communicable diseases.

With regard to the criteria established by the Executive Board of the WHO, the Committee was unanimous in its endorsement of the importance of the several projects for public health in the countries concerned, and was also unanimous in its agreement that the projects form part of the larger scheme of coordinated action by the several agencies. The Committee felt that the Bureau had assessed the ability of the national governments to continue and to complete the work that would be started with the aid of the WHO and, while itself was not competent to assess this factor, believed that the Regional Director's proposals should be endorsed in this respect.

The Executive Committee, as the Working Party of the Regional Committee for the Americas, recommends the following resolution for consideration by the Regional Committee:

THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE,

HAVING examined the Proposed Program and Budget of the Region of the Americas, World Health Organization, for 1954,

TRANSMITS the said Program and Budget to the Director-General of the World Health Organization for him to consider in preparing the 1954 Annual Budget for the World Health Organization for comment by the Executive Board and action by the Sixth World Health Assembly.