Topic 25: REGULATIONS FOR THE AWARD OF FELLOWSHIPS

(Topic presented by the Representative of Argentina)

Inasmuch as fellowships for the education and training of technical personnel in the Member Countries of the Pan American Sanitary Organization are of strategic importance in improving the development of the corps of workers needed to carry out health programs, the selection of candidates for such studies should be based on a combination of essential requirements, established according to well-defined objectives. A set of clear and precise regulations would leave no room for uncertainty in this matter, and would enable candidates for fellowships to be informed in advance of all the requirements they must meet.

Requests for fellowships are periodically refused on one ground or another, such as failure to meet requirements as regards age, field of specialization chosen, employment in government health activities after completion of the fellowship studies, proficiency in languages, marital status, or factors concerning the agency sponsoring the fellowship, etc.

In view of the lack of preciseness in existing requirements, each country can draw up regulations to govern the selection of candidates for fellowships. However, as the Pan American Sanitary Bureau gives final approval to the fellowships, after it has received the information submitted by the candidates, and has considered the circumstances under which the fellowship studies are to be completed, we believe that a single, complete, and precise set of regulations, after study by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, should be established for all the countries.

It is therefore proposed that the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau present to the next meeting of the Executive Committee, if possible, draft General Regulations for the award of fellowships to the Member Countries of the Pan American Sanitary Organization.