

*executive committee of
the directing council*



**PAN AMERICAN
SANITARY
ORGANIZATION**

31st Meeting
Washington, D. C.
June 1957

*working party of
the regional committee*

**WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**



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Topic 3: RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Modification of Articles 6, 17, 26, and 28

(Secretary of the Executive Committee)

It is believed that, at the stage of development which the activities of the Pan American Sanitary Organization have now reached, it would be highly desirable for the function of Secretary of meetings of the Executive Committee to be entrusted to the Director of the Bureau, instead of to the Secretary General. This is the procedure followed in the World Health Organization, where the Director-General performs the function of Secretary of meetings of the Executive Board. In effect, Article 32 of the WHO Constitution provides: "The Director-General shall be ex officio Secretary of the Health Assembly, of the Board, of all commissions and committees of the Organization and of conferences convened by it. He may delegate these functions."

Moreover, in the present Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee there are certain functions which, although normally incumbent on the Secretary of a meeting, are assigned to the Director rather than to the Secretary General. The Rules provide, for example, that the Director shall prepare the agenda of the meetings, transmit it to the Member Governments, and draw up a program for each session. If, therefore, the Director were assigned the function of Secretary of the Executive Committee, the existing confusion of duties could be avoided. This measure would be in accordance with the policy established in Article 32 of the WHO Constitution, and also with that followed in other UN specialized agencies and in the United Nations itself, where the chief administrative officer of the agency serves also as Secretary of the governing bodies.

In view of the foregoing, the Executive Committee may wish to consider the following proposed resolutions:

Proposed Resolution

The Executive Committee,

Considering the desirability of assigning to the Director the function of serving as Secretary of meetings of the Executive Committee; and

Considering the provisions of Article 32 of the Rules of Procedure, governing amendments to these Rules;

RESOLVES:

To modify Articles 6, 17, 26, and 28 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee to read as follows:

"Article 6. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall be ex officio Secretary of the Executive Committee and of all committees, subcommittees, and working parties established by it. He may delegate these functions."

"Article 17. There shall be a Drafting Committee composed of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau in his capacity as Secretary ex officio of the Executive Committee."

"Article 26. The right to speak shall be limited to representatives, observers designated by Members and Territories as defined in Article 2 of the Constitution, observers of organizations entitled to representation, and the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. The Chairman may extend the right to speak to alternates, advisers of representatives, and to officials of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the World Health Organization."

"Article 28. The representatives and the Director, in his capacity as member and Secretary ex officio of the Executive Committee, shall sign the Final Report."