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FINAL REPORT

The 33rd Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Directing Council of the Pan American Sanitary Organization was held at Washington, D. C., in the International Conference Suite of the Department of State of the United States of America, on 26 September 1957, as convoked by the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

The following members of the Committee, observers, and officers of the Bureau were present at the single plenary session of the Executive Committee:

Members Present:

Dr. Mario V. Guzmán Galarza BOLIVIA
Dr. Félix Hurtado CUBA
Mr. Humberto Olivero GUATEMALA
Dr. Orlando Aguilar MEXICO
Dr. Carlos Díaz Coller NICARAGUA
Dr. Manuel A. Sánchez Vigil VENEZUELA
Dr. Daniel Orellana PERU

Member Absent:

Member ex officio:

Dr. Fred L. Soper PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU

Dr. Carlos Luis González
Secretary:
  Dr. Myron E. Wegman

Observers:
  Dr. Luis Patiño Camargo
  Dr. Alberto Aguilar Rivas
  Dr. Paul V. Ollé
  Dr. Alberto Bissot, Jr.
  Dr. N. H. Swellengrebel
  Sir Joseph Harkness
  Mr. Howard B. Calderwood
  Mr. Milton P. Siegel

Advisers to the Director of the
Pan American Sanitary Bureau:
  Dr. Gustavo Molina, Chief, Division of Public Health
  Mr. Donald F. Simpson, Chief, Division of Administration

Chief, Secretariat Services:
  Mr. Guillermo A. Suro

OFFICERS

The meeting was opened by Dr. Félix Hurtado (Cuba), who had been elected Chairman at the 30th Meeting of the Committee. Dr. Hurtado welcomed the Representatives of Mexico and Venezuela, the new members of the Committee elected at the X Meeting of the
Directing Council to fill the vacancies created by the termination of the periods of office of Colombia and Paraguay.

The election of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman took place in conformity with Article 3 of the Rules of Procedure. Before the voting, Mr. Olivero (Guatemala) raised the question as to whether there was a quorum, since there were not five members of the Committee present, apart from the two newly elected members. The Chairman replied that he was proceeding in accordance with the practice followed at meetings of the Executive Committee. After two votings, in which there were two votes for the Representative of Guatemala, two votes for the Representative of Nicaragua, and one blank ballot, the Chairman decided that, following a procedure similar to that provided for in the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council, lots would be drawn to select as Chairman one of the two representatives who had received an equal number of votes. Mr. Humberto Olivero, Representative of Guatemala, was elected Chairman of the Executive Committee. Dr. Manuel A. Sánchez Vigil, Representative of Nicaragua, was then unanimously elected Vice-Chairman.

AGENDA

The agenda presented in Document CE33/1 was approved.

TOPICS DISCUSSED AND RESOLUTIONS APPROVED

During the 33rd Meeting of the Executive Committee, the following topics were discussed:
1. Technical Discussions at the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference

In submitting this topic for discussion, the Chairman called attention to the fact that Resolution XVII of the X Meeting of the Directing Council, which requested the Executive Committee to take the necessary measures for the selection of topics for the Technical Discussions at the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference, perhaps could not be considered as definitively approved until the members of the Directing Council had signed the Final Report of that meeting of the Council. He affirmed that he was opening the discussion subject to the approval and signature of that Report by the Directing Council.

Dr. Díaz Coller (Mexico) suggested that only one topic be selected and proposed the following: "The Prevention of Accidents in Childhood." He stressed the great importance of this subject, saying that very few studies have been made of it in Latin America. Dr. Hurtado (Cuba) and Dr. Guzmán Galarza (Bolivia) supported the proposal of the Representative of Mexico.

Dr. Orellana (Venezuela) proposed that several topics be selected, among them one on the administration of programs against infant diarrheas. Dr. Sánchez Vigil (Nicaragua) proposed as a topic: "Nutrition Problems in Childhood." The Chairman asked the Secretariat whether experience had shown that it was easier to make preparations for the Technical Discussions when they dealt with only one topic. Dr. González (Assistant
Director, PASB) replied that it was certainly easier and more economical to prepare for one topic rather than several, but that the Bureau was always willing to take the necessary steps to prepare for whatever number might be decided on by the Committee, and to find the experts to make those preparations.

Dr. Aguilar Rivas (Observer, El Salvador) suggested the following topic: "Advances in Administrative and Therapeutic Methods Related to Tuberculosis." After a discussion in which all members of the Committee took part, the Chairman called twice for a vote -- the first one having ended in a tie -- to decide whether one or several topics would be selected.

Decision: By a vote of 4 to 2, it was agreed to select only one topic for the Technical Discussions at the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference.

The Chairman then put to a vote the topic proposed by the Representative of Mexico, and by a count of 4 to 2 the following resolution was approved:

RESOLUTION I

The Executive Committee,

Bearing in mind Resolution XVII adopted by the Directing Council at its X Meeting, which authorized the Executive Committee, at its 33rd Meeting, to take the necessary measures for the selection of topics for the Technical Discussions to be held at the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference,
RESOLVES:

To select for the Technical Discussions at the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference the following topic: "The Prevention of Accidents in Childhood."

The Chairman proposed that the terms of the second paragraph of the aforesaid resolution of the Council, namely, that the Executive Committee draw up a set of procedures for these Technical Discussions, be carried out by the Committee at its 34th Meeting; that the Director be authorized at this time to designate an expert to prepare an introductory statement on the topic selected; and that the Bureau endeavor to transmit this introductory statement to the governments sufficiently in advance for study.

It was so agreed.

The Vice-Chairman, Dr. Sánchez Vigil (Nicaragua), then took the Chair.

2. Proposed New Conditions of Employment

Upon presentation of this topic, Mr. Olivero (Guatemala) proposed that the study thereof be postponed to the 34th Meeting of the Executive Committee, a proposal that was supported by other members of the Committee.

It was so agreed.
3. Date and Place of the 34th Meeting of the Executive Committee

Dr. Hurtado (Cuba) was of the opinion that the custom of holding the Executive Committee's spring meeting in Washington should not be changed. Dr. Díaz Coller (Mexico) proposed, on the other hand, that inasmuch as the World Health Assembly would meet in Minneapolis in 1958, beginning on 26 May, the 34th Meeting of the Committee be held at that city so as to save time for the representatives. Dr. González (Assistant Director, PASB) pointed out that there had been no negotiations between the PASO and the city of Minneapolis, and that to hold the meeting in that city would entail additional expenses. Mr. Calderwood (Observer, United States) said that it would actually be very difficult to hold that meeting in Minneapolis, because of the lack of time for completing the necessary negotiations and because other meetings are scheduled to be held in that city during that same period. Finally, at the proposal of Dr. Sánchez Vigil (Nicaragua), the following resolution was unanimously approved:

RESOLUTION II

The Executive Committee,

Bearing in mind Article 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee,

RESOLVES:

1. To hold the 34th Meeting of the Executive Committee in Washington, D. C., during May 1958.
2. To authorize the Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, in mutual agreement, to decide on the duration of the meeting, taking into account the number and nature of the topics to be studied and the advisability of holding the meeting immediately before the Eleventh World Health Assembly.

4. Study of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee

Mr. Calderwood (Observer, United States) suggested that, in order to avoid problems of interpretation such as those that arose at the beginning of the meeting, the Committee make a study of amendments that it would be advisable to introduce in its Rules of Procedure, requesting the Director to prepare a background document for this study. Dr. Hurtado (Cuba) agreed with this proposal, on the condition that the Committee itself make the study, designating a rapporteur for that purpose. He announced that he would propose the elimination of the signing of the Final Report, even though on previous occasions he had expressed opposition to such action. Dr. Díaz Coller (Mexico) agreed with this last suggestion of the Representative of Cuba. Dr. Guzmán Galarza (Bolivia) was in favor of continuing the practice of signing the Final Report, for that practice is a tradition in inter-American organizations. Dr. González (Assistant Director, PASB) stated, for purposes of information and with the desire of offering the Bureau's fullest assistance to the Executive Committee, that the Bureau would be pleased to prepare a preliminary study on amendments to the Rules of Procedure, to
transmit it to the members of the Committee, and then, with the comments made by the members, to draft a document that could serve as a basis for the study of this topic at the 34th Meeting.

Dr. Sánchez Vigil (Nicaragua) proposed that the topic be included on the agenda of the 34th Meeting, and that the procedure suggested by the Observer of the United States be followed for this study, in the manner outlined by the Assistant Director.

It was so agreed.

5. Membership of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations

Dr. Díaz Coller (Mexico) raised the question of whether it would be advisable to designate new members to the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations, inasmuch as two of its present members, the Dominican Republic and the United States, are no longer on the Executive Committee. After a brief discussion, Dr. Sánchez Vigil (Nicaragua) proposed that this matter be examined at the 34th Meeting of the Executive Committee.

It was so agreed.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the members of the Committee and the Secretary sign the present Final Report.

DONE at Washington, D. C., this 27th day of September 1957. The Secretary shall deposit the original text in the archives of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and shall transmit copies thereof to the Member Governments.

Representative of Bolivia

Representative of Cuba

Representative of Guatemala

Representative of Mexico

Representative of Nicaragua

Representative of Venezuela

Secretary General of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Secretary ex officio of the Executive Committee

Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Member ex officio of the Executive Committee