



*executive committee of
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

*working party of
the regional committee*

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



37th Meeting
Washington, D. C.
May 1959

CE37/19 (Eng.)
8 May 1959
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH-SPANISH

F I N A L R E P O R T

**LIBRARY
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.**

The documents of the meeting are included in consecutive numerical order under the corresponding index tab, as listed in the Agenda (Document CE37/1, Rev. 2) appearing under tab No. 1. The List of Participants (Document CE37/14, Rev. 1) is included under tab No. 14.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1. Opening by the Chairman of the Executive Committee	3
2. Invitation of the U. S. National Citizens Committee for WHO	4
3. Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1960	5
Resolution I	6
4. Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 1958	7
Resolution II	12
Resolution III	13
5. Inter-American Congresses of Public Health	14
Resolution IV	14
6. Report on Buildings and Installations for Headquarters and Zone Offices	15
Resolution V	17
7. Amendments to the Financial Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau	18
Resolution VI	18
8. Amendments to the Staff Rules and Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau	19
Resolution VII	22
Resolution VIII	22
9. Emergency Revolving Fund	24
Resolution IX	25

	<u>Page</u>
10. Working Capital Fund	26
Resolution X	29
11. Meetings of the Executive Committee	31
Resolution XI	31
12. Progress Report of the Subcommittee on Basic Documents of the Pan American Health Organization	32
Resolution XII	32
13. Health Charter of Puerto Rico	34
Resolution XIII	35
14. Provisional Draft Agenda for the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, XI Meeting of the Regional Committee of the WHO	37
Resolution XIV	38
15. Dates of the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, XI Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO, and of the Meetings of the Executive Committee	39
Resolution XV	39
16. Portrait honoring the Director Emeritus of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau	40
Resolution XVI	40
17. Decentralization of Activities of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to the Zone Offices	41
Resolution XVII	44
18. Membership of Colombia in WHO	45
19. Resolution of the Special Committee of the Council of the Organization of American States to Study the Formulation of New Measures of Economic Cooperation	46
Resolution XVIII	48
20. Proposed Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee	50
21. Closure of the Meeting	51

ANNEX I Report of the Executive Committee to the Directing
Council on the Proposed Program and Budget of the
Pan American Health Organization for 1960
(Document CE37/17)

ANNEX II Declaration of the XV Pan American Sanitary
Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1958
(Document CE37/4, Rev. 1)

8 May 1959

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH-SPANISH

FINAL REPORT

Under the chairmanship of Dr. Miguel E. Bustamante (Mexico), with Dr. Daniel Orellana (Venezuela) serving as Vice-Chairman, the 37th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization was held at Washington, D. C., in the International Conference Suite of the Department of State of the United States, from 4 to 8 May 1959, as convoked by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. The following members of the Committee, observers, and officers of the Bureau were present:

Members:

Dr. Bichat Rodrigues	BRAZIL
Mr. Humberto Olivero	GUATEMALA
Dr. José Rodrigo Barahona Carrasco	HONDURAS
Dr. Jorge Zepeda	
Dr. Miguel E. Bustamante	MEXICO
Dr. Carlos Díaz Coller	
Dr. Jorge Estrella Ruiz	PERU
Dr. Horace DeLien	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Dr. Arthur Clayton Curtis	
Mr. Charles Sommer	
Mr. Laurence Wyatt	
Dr. Daniel Orellana	VENEZUELA

Member and Secretary ex officio
of the Committee:

Dr. Abraham Horwitz, Director

PAN AMERICAN
SANITARY BUREAU

Observers:

Mr. Didier Raguenet

FRANCE

Mr. G. van Vloten

KINGDOM OF THE
NETHERLANDS

Organization of American States:

Mr. Paul R. Kelbaugh

Mrs. Bernice Randall

Advisers to the Director of the
Pan American Sanitary Bureau

Dr. Carlos Luis González, Assistant Director

Dr. Myron E. Wegman, Secretary General

AGENDA

The agenda appearing in Document CE37/1, Rev. 2, was approved at the first plenary session, held 4 May 1959.

DRAFTING COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, the Drafting Committee was composed of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and the Secretary, and was entrusted with the preparation of the Final Report.

TOPICS DISCUSSED AND RESOLUTIONS APPROVED

During the 37th Meeting of the Executive Committee, the following topics were discussed:

1. Opening by the Chairman of the Executive Committee

The Chairman, Dr. Miguel E. Bustamante, in opening the first session, greeted those present in the name of the Secretary of Health and Welfare of Mexico, Dr. José Alvarez Amézquita, and in his own name, and stated what a great honor it was for him to preside at the meeting. He added that his presence at the meeting signified his continued active participation in international public health organizations, saying that, as a former officer of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, he remembered with affection his collaboration with his co-workers there, like Dr. Horwitz, recently elected Director of the Bureau, that intelligent, capable, and well-trained technician from whom all expect an excellent performance. He expressed his pleasure at the appointment of Dr. Horwitz, whose country has such a fine national public health service.

After thanking the Chairman for his remarks, the Director called attention to the Bureau's increasing responsibility in the public health field in the Americas. He stated that understanding is needed from the Member Governments in order to fulfill the Bureau's mission, and expressed confidence that he will be able to carry out his task thanks to the collaboration of the excellent PASB staff. He said that Dr. Carlos Luis González, Assistant Director, and Dr. Myron E. Wegman, Secretary General, will continue to collaborate with him, thus ensuring continuity in the Organization's work. He reiterated his decision to expend maximum efforts in behalf of progress of the Pan American Health Organization.

2. Invitation of the U. S. National Citizens Committee for WHO

The Secretariat then announced that an invitation had been received to attend the Second National Conference on World Health, organized by the U. S. National Citizens Committee for the WHO, in Washington, D. C., 7-9 May, for the purpose of arousing public interest in the Organization.

The Committee agreed to express its appreciation for the invitation and to attend the session to be held in the afternoon of 7 May, when, among other speakers, Dr. Milton Eisenhower, President of Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. Abraham Horwitz, Director of PASB, would address the meeting, the topic of discussion being "Health for Peace." The Committee also agreed to attend as many functions and sessions of the Conference as its workload permitted.

3. Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1960

The Committee examined this topic at its first and second sessions. The Director made a general presentation, appearing in Document CE37/17, in which he pointed out that the proposed budget reflected, insofar as possible, the wishes of the governments and the guidelines established by the governing bodies.

The Committee made a detailed examination of the various parts of the budget, proceeding item by item, in the course of which it requested clarification of various points and made several observations and recommendations. On the basis of these, the Secretariat prepared a draft report to the Directing Council, which was read and discussed at the eighth session. Mr. Olivero (Guatemala) referred to the sections entitled "Task of the Committee," "Influence of Cost of Living," "Leprosy," "Mental Health," and finally "Questions regarding Specific Projects," with special reference to environmental sanitation and sanitary engineers in the zones. Dr. Orellana (Venezuela) agreed with the views expressed by the Representative of Guatemala on the sections "Task of the Committee" and "Mental Health." He also made some comments on "Costs of Zone Offices" and suggested several style changes in the text. Dr. DeLien (United States) referred to the section concerning influence of cost-of-living increase on the budget, and in connection with the problem of personnel recruitment, he was of the opinion that reimbursement of income tax by the Bureau to staff residing at headquarters should not be considered a factor in the recruitment of such staff. The

Committee expressed agreement with the statement of the United States Representative and pointed out that the most important criterion in the recruitment of personnel is the need for the Organization to have the best qualified staff.

The Chairman proposed that the Secretariat introduce the approved changes in the report and that the final text be submitted to the Drafting Committee.

It was so agreed.

Finally the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION I

CE37.R1

The Executive Committee,

Having studied in detail the provisional draft of the proposed program and budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1960 contained in Official Document No. 24, with the modifications thereto appearing in Document CE37/11, both prepared by the Director; and

Considering the terms of Article 12-C of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization and paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 of Article III of the Financial Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau,

RESOLVES:

1. To submit to the XI Meeting of the Directing Council the proposed program and budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1960, prepared by the Director (Official Document No. 24 and Document CE37/11), together with the report (Document CE37/17) (Annex I), containing the observations and recommendations made by this Committee.

2. To recommend that the Directing Council establish the budget level for 1960 at \$4,100,000.

4. Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 1958

Official Document No. 29, containing the two reports on this topic, was presented at the third session. The Director, in his Financial Report, indicated that in 1958 there was a deficit of \$250,979, which was covered by an advance from the Working Capital Fund. This deficit was due to the fact that the quota collections in 1958, both for current quota contributions and arrears, were markedly reduced. This prompted the External Auditor to call attention again to the very serious financial situation of the Organization.

A revised format has been introduced in the report, and the financial statements of the PAHO, INCAP, and the Program of Technical Cooperation of the OAS now appear separately. It was pointed out in the report that total expenditures for 1958 amounted to \$8,610,149, of which \$2,810,850 were in respect of WHO, \$357,609 for procurement services in behalf of government administrations and public institutions, and the rest in respect of PAHO. Receipts in 1958 from the collection of quota contributions, including arrears, amounted to \$2,511,547, which was \$388,453 below the assessed budget for that year. Amounts received under other income totaled \$60,948, which was \$39,052 below the estimated total anticipated.

The total expenditure for 1958 was \$176,526 below the authorized budget, for when it became apparent that income would be less than anticipated, an attempt was made to curtail expenditures, even though the demands for the Organization's services continued to increase. As a

result of these measures, it was possible to keep the 1958 deficit to the amount mentioned above.

At the end of 1958 the Working Capital Fund amounted to \$974,162. This figure is the lowest in the past five years and is \$1,185,838 below the authorized level for 1959. This situation will create a serious problem for the Organization during the first half of 1959.

Moreover, the External Auditor pointed out in his report that contributions collected in 1958 amounted to 78.25 per cent of the assessed contributions, which is the lowest percentage in the 1950's. Since the largest contributor pays 66 per cent of the assessed contributions, this means that of the remainder relating to all of the other Member States, only some 12 per cent was collected in 1958, that is, approximately one third of the assessments for their countries. The External Auditor stated that the present situation, involving delayed collection of contributions, cannot continue without putting the Organization in such a financial position as to seriously hamper the fulfillment of its aims. To solve this situation, the External Auditor suggests, among other measures, that the Directing Council make a long-term estimate of the development of the activities of the Organization, thus giving an indication of the contributions expected to be borne by the different Member States; and that the countries that are one year in arrears provide in one year for an appropriation in their national budget to cover two years' contributions.

With reference to the Working Capital Fund, the External Auditor stated in his report that now, when the financial situation is worse than

ever, he deemed it necessary to mention the matter again, and he listed three possible measures for meeting the cash demands of the Organization: (1) earlier timing and better collection of contributions; (2) introducing in the budget during subsequent years a new appropriation in order to increase the Working Capital Fund; and (3) authorizing the Director to borrow funds on a long-term basis, in accordance with Article VI, paragraph 6.9, of the Financial Regulations. He also pointed out that neither of the first two possibilities would provide an immediate solution and that the third possibility is not recommended. He concluded by stating that it is probable that the Organization will have to borrow for temporary periods in accordance with the afore-mentioned article of the Financial Regulations, until the cash situation has improved.

There followed a lengthy discussion, in which all the representatives participated. Stress was laid on the need to search for a solution to the Organization's grave financial situation, arising particularly from delays in quota payments. One of the causes of this delay is that the fiscal year of the PAHO does not coincide with that of many Member Governments, which runs from 1 July to 30 June. This means that the quotas for the Organization cannot be included in the budget for the year they are due. Another cause is the continued increase of such quotas, which means that unpaid balances accumulate because governments cannot know in good time the exact amounts assessed for a fiscal year. In this connection, it was pointed out that it would be advisable not to constantly increase the quotas because, judging from outstanding quotas, the governments find it difficult to pay them and it would be deceptive to broaden the Organization's activities if it does not have the necessary resources.

The Committee gave careful consideration to the suggestions of the External Auditor for resolving this problem. As for the first suggestion, it was pointed out that a long-term estimate would reflect a constant increase in quotas, which might produce an unfavorable reaction on the part of governments already overburdened with international obligations. As for the payment of two quota contributions in one year, this was not considered a feasible solution under the present circumstances.

It was emphasized also that resolutions previously adopted by the governing bodies urging prompt payment of current quotas and settlement of arrearages had not produced the desired results in most cases. The ministers of health, who are familiar with the Organization's activities, are interested in prompt payment of quotas, but other authorities on which their payments depend are not duly informed on such activities. In this respect, the initiative taken by the Director of the Bureau was considered appropriate. This consisted in sending a letter to the ministers of health and of foreign affairs, calling attention to the serious financial position of the Organization and to the need for prompt payment of outstanding quotas. It was considered advisable to supplement this action by visits of the Director to the countries' ambassadors in Washington, as well as visits by other high officers of the Bureau to the Member Governments, to explain the scope of the Organization's activities, the benefits they represent for the respective countries, and the urgent need for payment of quotas, so as not to hamper the execution of its broad program, which is based on requests from the governments themselves.

With reference to this point, Dr. Estrella Ruiz (Peru) and Dr. Barahona (Honduras) stated that the balance owed by their countries had been settled this year. At the request of several representatives, a table showing the status of unpaid quotas as of 30 April 1959 was distributed (Document CE37/15).

It was considered advisable that, in future meetings of the Committee and the Directing Council, the proposed program and budget and the financial reports of the Director and the External Auditor be examined concurrently. This would make possible a clearer analysis not only of the amounts, but also of the way in which the Organization's program has been carried out during each fiscal year.

In reply to a question as to whether the figure of \$100,000 appearing under "Other Income" in the budgets for 1959 and 1960 gave a true picture, particularly in view of the fact that in 1958 only \$60,948 were available from this source, it was explained that this decrease was due to the sharp reduction in 1958 in the yield from the 3 per cent charge on procurements for governments and the interest on United States Government securities, in which funds of the Organization are invested. It was pointed out that, judging from the volume of purchases during the first four months of 1959, it is anticipated that they will reach a level comparable to that of years prior to 1958. Moreover, 1958 was most unusual, and on the basis of previous years' experience an "Other Income" figure of \$100,000 is realistic.

Finally, in response to a request of the Chairman for a clarification on the status of the Special Malaria Fund, it was explained that on 14 January of this year an additional voluntary contribution of \$3,000,000 was received from the Government of the United States.

Once the discussion was concluded, a working party was appointed, composed of the Chairman, the Representatives of Guatemala, Peru, and the United States, and the Director of the Bureau, to prepare draft resolutions on this topic, reflecting the opinions expressed in the course of the discussion. This working party presented its proposals at the fourth session and, after amending them slightly, the Committee unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION II CE37.R2

The Executive Committee,

Having examined the Financial Report of the Director for the fiscal year 1958 and the Report of the External Auditor on the audit of the accounts of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau for 1958 (Official Document No. 29),

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the Director and the members of his staff on the improvements made in the method of presentation of the Financial Report for the fiscal year 1958, and to thank the External Auditor for the Report he submitted (Official Document No. 29).

2. To take note of the aforesaid reports and transmit them to the XI Meeting of the Directing Council.

The Committee then unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION III CE37.R3

The Executive Committee,

Considering the grave financial situation of the Pan American Health Organization, as indicated by the Financial Report of the Director and the Report of the External Auditor;

Considering the large total of uncollected quotas;

Considering it to be essential that the Pan American Health Organization pursue its program in behalf of health in the Americas; and

Bearing in mind the recommendations of the Director and of the External Auditor with respect to the financial situation of the Organization,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to bring to the attention of Member Governments the urgent need for the prompt payment of their quotas; and to take whatever action he may deem advisable to this effect, having in mind the opinions expressed in the course of the Executive Committee meeting.

2. To recommend that the Director report to the XI Meeting of the Directing Council regarding the results of his efforts in this matter.

5. Inter-American Congresses of Public Health

At the fourth session, at which Dr. Orellana (Venezuela) presided, Document CE37/12 referring to this topic was taken up and, after a brief discussion, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION IV

CE37.R4

The Executive Committee,

Bearing in mind Resolution XX of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference on Inter-American Congresses of Public Health; and

Having examined the report of the Director on this matter (Document CE37/12), and taking into consideration the financial obligations of the Host Government and of the Bureau that would be derived from holding these Congresses,

RESOLVES:

To request the Director to consult with the Government of Argentina on the advisability of planning an Inter-American Congress of Public Health before the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference.

6. Report on Buildings and Installations for Headquarters and Zone Offices

At the fourth session, Document CE37/10 on this topic, as well as Annex I thereto, containing the report on the meetings of the Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations, were submitted for consideration. It was reported by the Secretariat that negotiations with the United States Government with respect to a site for the new permanent headquarters building are progressing favorably. On 2 April the U. S. Department of State informed the Director that the legislative bill to appropriate funds for purchase of the site had already been cleared by the competent offices of that Department and submitted to the Bureau of the Budget for consideration. On 1 May a letter was received from Mr. Francis O. Wilcox, Assistant Secretary of State, in which he stated: "I am very happy to inform you that the draft legislation has now been approved by the Bureau of the Budget and all other interested Executive agencies. The legislation is now being forwarded to the Congress for its consideration."

Dr. DeLien (United States) recalled that in 1950 the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference had decided that the headquarters of the Bureau would remain in Washington. In 1951 the PASB bought the buildings it is now occupying, and in the same year the United States Government offered the Bureau a site at the National Institutes of Health. The Directing Council declined this offer, although it did express interest in a more suitable location. In 1952 it was decided that the present buildings would serve as interim headquarters for at least ten years. In 1955, and again in 1956, the Organization allocated \$100,000 for a

special headquarters building fund and \$23,000 for architectural plans. In 1956 and 1957, attempts were made to obtain a site on Constitution Avenue, but unfortunately it was reserved for the Federal Government. In the summer of 1958 unofficial negotiations were carried out between the Bureau, the Public Housing Administration, the Department of State, and the U. S. Public Health Service in connection with a site which the U. S. Government might purchase, for donation to the PAHO. Such a site, valued at one to two million dollars and with an area of 3.5 acres conveniently located near the Department of State, was finally considered. At the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference, the Delegate of the United States announced the intention of his Government to submit a bill to Congress donating this site to the Organization for its headquarters building. Dr. DeLien added that it has been an honor for the United States to have the headquarters of the Bureau located here since 1902 and that it was also an honor to inform the Executive Committee that a draft legislation has been presented to Congress providing for the acquisition of an appropriate site in keeping with the importance, dignity, and functions of the Pan American Health Organization. He concluded by saying that the United States is indeed gratified that the PAHO will continue to have its headquarters in Washington and expressed the hope that within a reasonable period of time the Bureau will be housed in appropriate quarters.

Dr. Bustamante (Mexico), while applauding the generous measures taken by the Government of the United States, wished to record that the Government of Mexico is still interested in having the Bureau's headquarters

located in that country in the event that, at any time and for any reason, it should be necessary to transfer them to another country. He announced that, in such case, his Government would offer an appropriate site.

After the Chairman had expressed the Committee's appreciation for the information provided by the Representatives of the United States and Mexico, which, he declared, showed the interest of their governments in helping to solve the problem of headquarters for the Bureau, the Committee unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION V CE37.R5

The Executive Committee,

Bearing in mind the shortage of space in the headquarters buildings in Washington and the measures taken by the Director, with the approval of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations, to resolve temporarily this situation; and

Bearing in mind the statements of the Representative of the United States on the latest steps taken by the Government of his country in connection with the acquisition of a site for the headquarters buildings in Washington, and the offer made by the Representative of Mexico,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Director and the report of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations (Document CE37/10 and Annex I).

2. To thank the Government of the United States for the steps taken in connection with the future headquarters of the Organization, and the Government of Mexico for its interest and offer in this matter.

3. To express its appreciation to the members of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations for the interest they have shown in carrying out the task entrusted to them.

7. Amendments to the Financial Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

At the fourth session, Document CE37/2 was presented, and the Committee unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION VI CE37.R6

The Executive Committee,

Considering that the Financial Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau should provide the necessary flexibility in the administration of the Pan American Health Organization fellowship program; and

Taking into account the desirability of providing uniform rules and procedures for the administration of PAHO and WHO fellowships,

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the Directing Council amend the Financial Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Article IV, paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4, effective beginning with the fiscal year 1959, to read as follows:

"Article IV - Appropriations

4.3 Appropriations shall remain available for twelve months following the end of the financial year to which they relate, to the extent that they are required to discharge the outstanding legal obligations as of 31 December of that year, except for amounts obligated for fellowship awards, which shall remain available until the fellowship is completed. Any remaining balance of appropriations will revert to the Working Capital Fund.

4.4 At the end of the twelve-month period provided in Regulation 4.3, the remaining balance of any appropriations will revert to the Working Capital Fund. Except for obligations in respect to fellowships as provided in Regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations of the prior twelve months shall at that time be canceled; where the obligation remains a valid charge, it shall be transferred as an obligation against current appropriations."

8. Amendments to the Staff Rules and Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

At the fourth session, Document CE37/6 was presented, and it was pointed out that the slight increase in pensionable remuneration for professional personnel would mean an estimated annual expenditure of \$5,500 for the staff paid with funds from the regular PASB budget and an estimated \$2,000 annually for staff paid from WHO and TA funds.

In answer to questions raised by representatives in the course of considering the various rules proposed for amendment, the following information was given:

With reference to Rule 230.2, it was pointed out that the difference between category P.6 and D.1 is the same as that which exists between a policy advisory function and an actual directing function, and that the establishment of category P.6 would provide a broader promotion scale. The Director is making a study on reallocation of existing posts, having in mind this amendment and believing that differences in rank should be reflected in remuneration.

With respect to Rule 255, the Secretariat reported that it broadens and effectively increases the possibilities for educating the children of the Bureau's employees and that the term "full-time attendance" means, in this case, that a complete course is being taken with a view to obtaining an academic certificate.

In respect of Article 6.2 of the Staff Regulations, the Secretariat stated that, according to its interpretation, the word "attributable" in the phrase "attributable to the performance of official duties" clarifies the article and also does not restrict the scope of the protective measures established. The Chairman indicated that the Committee accepted this amendment, bearing in mind the interpretation given by the Secretariat.

Dr. Bustamante (Mexico) referred to the problem of finding competent personnel for the Bureau and pointed out that, in addition to the personnel recruited on a short-term basis and those recruited on a permanent basis, the Bureau should have available professional personnel, particularly young people, recruited for a stipulated period but for longer than provided for in the short-term contracts. He stressed that the countries would be less reluctant to permit their personnel to serve in international organizations if they knew that such personnel would return at the end of a not-too-long period with the experience acquired in their international activities. To that end, he added, it would be desirable for the Bureau to be able to offer special conditions of employment, since, because of the youth of the personnel and the duration of the contracts suggested, such personnel would not be expected to receive the benefits inherent to membership in the United Nations Pension Fund. He suggested that the Bureau could establish a uniform system, for example, by contributing 10 per cent of the amount of the salary paid to such personnel, so that, at the termination of their contract, they would receive a substantial amount. On the other hand, it would be advisable for the Bureau to examine

the possibility of requesting the governments to permit their personnel to accept such contracts without loss of the posts they are filling at the time they are offered the contract. Dr. Orellana (Venezuela) reported that his Government has permitted its malaria specialists to work with the Organization, without loss of accrued entitlements. Dr. DeLien (United States) said that Public Law 795, passed by the 85th United States Congress, provides for transfer of U. S. Government officials for up to three years in order to work with international organizations, without prejudice to their national careers. Dr. Rodrigues (Brazil) recalled that his Government had signed an agreement with the PASB through which Brazilian officials are permitted to work with the Bureau without losing their post in the national service. Dr. Estrella Ruiz (Peru) pointed out that in countries where technical personnel is scarce there are no such legal provisions, and suggested that the Bureau sound out the various governments as to the possibilities for solving this problem. Mr. Olivero (Guatemala), in common with all other representatives who participated in the discussion, stressed the importance of this question and pointed out that the WHO is making a study concerning employment with international organizations of personnel of its Member Countries.

Dr. Bustamante (Mexico), reflecting the statements made by the different representatives, suggested that the Committee approve a resolution requesting the Director to study conditions of employment for attracting professional personnel to medium-term appointments. Mr. Olivero (Guatemala) pointed out that it should be understood that the study requested of the Director should include an examination of the laws

of the countries as they relate to the personnel of their national services working with international organizations.

Finally, the Executive Committee unanimously approved the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION VII

CE37.R7

The Executive Committee,

Having examined the proposed amendments to the Staff Regulations and the amendments introduced in the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, as set forth in Document CE37/6, presented by the Director; and

Considering the provisions of Staff Regulation 12.1 and Staff Rule 030,

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to the XI Meeting of the Directing Council the adoption of the amendments to the Staff Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau as proposed by the Director and contained in Document CE37/6, Annex I.

2. To confirm the amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau as presented by the Director in Document CE37/6, Annex II.

- - -

RESOLUTION VIII

CE37.R8

The Executive Committee,

Bearing in mind that one of the main difficulties encountered in the recruitment of professional personnel lies in the present system of appointments, since these either are of very short duration or are permanent;

Considering that the establishment of a medium-term appointment system would make it easier for governments and other institutions to authorize their technical staff to render temporary service in international organizations;

Considering that such a system would be of great benefit both to the international organizations, which could utilize the services and knowledge of national specialists, and to those specialists' countries of origin, for on return to their respective posts such personnel would take with them the experience acquired in activities of an international character; and

Bearing in mind the opinions expressed during the discussion of this topic,

RESOLVES:

To instruct the Director to explore the possibilities of establishing a medium-term appointment system to facilitate the recruitment of professional personnel, and to report the results of this study to the next meeting of the Directing Council.

9. Emergency Revolving Fund

At the fourth session, after the Secretariat presented Document CE37/3 on this topic, the Chairman stressed the importance of the Emergency Revolving Fund and regretted that the governments --no doubt for reasons of administrative procedure-- are unable to make immediate reimbursement of the sums advanced from the Fund.

The Director reported that, in addition to handling the requests for assistance mentioned in the aforesaid document, the Bureau, in view of the floods along the Rio de la Plata, offered the Government of Uruguay the services of the Bureau personnel residing in Uruguay and of the Zone VI Office, as well as the use of the Emergency Revolving Fund.

Dr. Bustamante (Mexico), Mr. Olivero (Guatemala), and Dr. Barahona (Honduras) emphasized the need to maintain the Emergency Revolving Fund at the authorized level, and Dr. Bustamante proposed that the Committee's resolution include a recommendation to the governments not to delay reimbursement of the amounts advanced from the Emergency Revolving Fund.

The Secretariat reported that as of 1 May 1959 the governments owed the Fund \$37,277, leaving the Fund with a balance of \$12,723. It was added that a check for \$9,897.34 had been received from the Government of Argentina with no indication as to its purpose. A follow-up letter had been sent to the Government of Argentina to determine its purpose. Finally, it was pointed out that in recent years the governments have shown a tendency to take longer in reimbursing the Fund.

As a result of the foregoing, the Executive Committee approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION IX CE37.R9

The Executive Committee,

Having examined the report presented by the Director on the use of the Emergency Revolving Fund (Document CE37/3); and

Considering that, if the Fund is to serve its important purpose of collaboration with the governments, it is essential that it be maintained at the established level,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report on the use of the Emergency Revolving Fund (Document CE37/3) presented by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.
2. To invite the governments, when they request assistance from the Fund, to reimburse as soon as possible the amounts advanced from the Fund.

10. Working Capital Fund

At the fifth session, the Director presented Document CE37/7 on this topic and indicated that although the problem of the Working Capital Fund had been discussed at length during the examination of the proposed program and budget and the reports of the Director and the External Auditor, he wished to make some comments of a general nature. He pointed out that the Working Capital Fund was established for the purpose of ensuring continuation of the operations of the Organization during the first six or eight months of the fiscal year, until such time as quota payments were received from most of the countries. The Directing Council at its X Meeting decided that the level of this Fund should be 60 per cent of the approved budget. However, the financial needs of the expanding program of the Bureau have made it impossible for the Fund to reach the 60 per cent level. On the contrary, the percentage relationship between the Working Capital Fund and the budget has declined from 57.1 per cent in 1955 to 40.8 per cent in 1958. As of 1 January 1959, the balance of the Fund was approximately \$985,000, or \$1,175,000 below its authorized balance of \$2,160,000. There is, therefore, a possibility that, given the current rate of expenditure, the Fund will be exhausted by 30 June 1959 if during this interval a large amount in quota payments is not received, and that situation would place the Bureau in a very serious position. The Director added that almost 85 per cent of the Organization's funds are derived from the quotas of five Member Countries. Therefore, it is necessary that urgent measures be studied to re-establish the Fund at its normal level, without prejudice to the general measures taken with respect

to the financial situation as a whole. The External Auditor in his report had suggested three possibilities for meeting the cash demands of the Organization. First, earlier timing and better collection of contributions, a possibility that is difficult to carry out inasmuch as the countries' budgets are established in mid-year. Second, the introduction in the Organization's budget during subsequent years of a new appropriation in order to increase the Working Capital Fund. This would result in decreasing the funds allotted to the Bureau's own activities, that is, the execution of programs. Third, the Auditor suggested authorizing the Director to borrow funds on a long-term basis, in accordance with Article VI, paragraph 6.9 of the Financial Regulations, but he did not recommend that this measure be taken as a recourse. Lastly, the Director pointed out that there was another possibility: to approach the Member Governments with the request that they assign special funds to the Organization, for one time only, to be used in re-establishing the Working Capital Fund's normal level. He added that, as had been requested at a prior session, distribution had been made of Document CE37/16 showing the use of the Working Capital Fund in 1958, by months.

The Committee studied in detail the problem described and the possibilities set forth for solving it. It was pointed out that the situation has now become more acute, since in the previous fiscal year there was a deficit that had to be covered from the Working Capital Fund, as though it were a supplementary fund. In addition, it became necessary to adopt urgent measures because -- the balance in the Fund on 1 May being

an estimated \$580,000 and the anticipated expenditures of the Bureau for May and June amounting to some \$560,000 -- by the end of June the Bureau may find it impossible to operate for want of resources. Because of this it was necessary to make an urgent appeal by letter to the Member Governments explaining the critical financial situation of the Bureau and requesting them to make every possible effort to settle their arrearages and their 1959 quotas as soon as possible, even if the latter are paid in partial amounts during the first six months. In this respect, it was pointed out that only two countries, Ecuador and El Salvador, had made payments up to this time on their 1959 quotas. As to the second proposal of the Auditor, to the effect that items be included in the budget during subsequent years in order to restore the Working Capital Fund to its normal level, it was deemed advisable to assign an amount, however small, to prevent the recurrence of serious situations such as the present one, and so as not to prepare programs that, for lack of financial resources to carry them out become, to a certain extent, imaginary. On the other hand, it was not considered advisable to borrow funds on a long-term basis to meet the needs of the Working Capital Fund. With regard to the possibility of requesting special funds from the governments to cover the Working Capital Fund, it was considered that such a request would not be well received, in view of the difficulties that the countries are having to pay their regular quotas. In addition, the currency in many countries has been devaluated and, as a consequence, the increase in their quota payments to the Organization has become even greater in terms of their national currency. Mention was also made of the need for bearing in mind not only the immediate financial situation but also the situation for future years. In this respect it was

considered advisable for the Directing Council to study this problem at greater length so as to place the Bureau on a firm financial basis.

Finally, a working party was established, composed of the Representatives of Brazil, Guatemala, the United States, and Venezuela, to prepare a draft resolution. This draft was examined at the sixth session and the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION X CE37.R10

The Executive Committee,

Having taken note of the status of the Working Capital Fund from 1955 to 1958, during which the Fund has shown a constant and progressive decline in relation to the budget level;

Taking into account the amount of the withdrawals from the Fund made necessary by the lack of timely collection of quota contributions of the Member Governments;

Bearing in mind that this situation has become critical during 1959; and

Considering that it is necessary to take suitable steps to ensure the normal development of the Organization's activities in the future,

RESOLVES:

1. To call to the attention of Member Governments the grave fact that for the first time, and for the reasons stated, the Organization will be unable to maintain the normal pace of its activities if it does not receive funds promptly within the next few months.

2. To request that Member Governments whose quota contributions are in arrears make every effort to pay them at the earliest possible date.

3. To request the Member Governments to take the necessary steps for the payment of their annual quotas as early as possible each year.

4. To instruct the Director to prepare a document giving a clear indication of the Organization's present financial status and to submit it as soon as possible to the Member Governments, together with this resolution.

5. To recommend to the Director that, in the preparation of the program and budget for 1961 and future years, he assign a proportion of the budget for the gradual increase of the Working Capital Fund until it has reached the established level.

11. Meetings of the Executive Committee

At the fifth session, during the discussion of Document CE37/8 relative to possible savings in the cost of holding the meetings of the governing bodies, Dr. Estrella Ruiz (Peru) expressed his support for the proposal to eliminate the meeting of the Committee held immediately before the Directing Council meeting, thus repeating a similar suggestion he made at the 34th Meeting of the Committee.

After a brief discussion, during which emphasis was placed on the savings to be effected in time and money, and particularly in view of the fact that, according to the proposal in the afore-mentioned document, the Committee can convene during the meeting of the Directing Council as foreseen by the Constitution itself, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION XI

CE37.R11

The Executive Committee,

Considering that Article 14-A of the Constitution provides that the Executive Committee will meet at least every six months;

Considering that the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference, believing that a saving in time and expense can be made in future meetings of the governing bodies by improved scheduling, has instructed the Director to plan the meetings so that they will be held with the fewest possible sessions and with the greatest economy possible; and that the Executive Committee has expressed the wish to reduce the costs of holding meetings; and

Considering that the elimination of one of the three annual Executive Committee meetings will bring about substantial savings in time and expense, and inasmuch as the Executive Committee can meet during the Directing Council meeting,

RESOLVES:

To eliminate the Executive Committee meeting held immediately preceding the Directing Council meeting, and to authorize the Director to take the necessary steps to implement the above decision during the current year.

12. Progress Report of the Subcommittee on Basic Documents of the Pan American Health Organization

At the fifth session, the Committee discussed Document CE37/13, on this topic, in which the Subcommittee suggested the advisability of preparing French and Portuguese translations of the Basic Documents.

Dr. Rodrigues (Brazil) pointed out that in view of the fact that the Rules of Procedure of the governing bodies provide that English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish are the official languages, the Subcommittee's suggestion seemed appropriate to him. He also called attention to the advisability of coordinating the French and Portuguese translations with the definitive texts in English and Spanish so as to avoid confusion such as was noted at the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference when the official texts in these two languages were compared.

In this connection, the Chairman pointed out that as a concession by the Governments of Brazil, Haiti, and France, and with a view to effecting economies for the Bureau, working documents for meetings are not translated into French and Portuguese. However, he did think it advisable to have official texts of the Basic Documents available in these languages.

The Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION XII

CE37.R12

The Executive Committee,

Bearing in mind Resolution XXXIV of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference and Resolution I of the 36th Meeting of the Executive Committee; and

Having studied the report of the Subcommittee on Basic Documents of the Pan American Health Organization, contained in Document CE37/13,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report of the Subcommittee on Basic Documents of the Pan American Health Organization (Document CE37/13).
2. To recommend that the Directing Council authorize the aforesaid Subcommittee to prepare the French and Portuguese texts of the Basic Documents.
3. To thank the members of the Subcommittee and the legal advisers of the Pan American Union for the work they are undertaking.

13. Health Charter of Puerto Rico

At the fifth, sixth, and seventh sessions, the Committee examined the proposal entitled "Health Charter of Puerto Rico." This document was presented by the delegation of Peru to the **XIV** Pan American Sanitary Conference (Document CE37/4), which approved it in principle and agreed to transmit it to the 36th Meeting of the Committee so that the latter might study it and make recommendations to the Directing Council. The Committee decided to postpone the study until the present meeting because it felt that the document warranted a detailed study and that this could not be accomplished during the brief period of time available at the 36th meeting. The Secretariat informed the Committee that the proposal presented by the delegation of Peru will be published in the Proceedings of the Conference and also described the circumstances leading to the presentation of the proposal, as reflected in the minutes of the fourteenth and fifteenth plenary sessions of the Conference, as well as the discussion held on this matter at the 36th Meeting of the Committee.

Dr. Estrella Ruiz (Peru) stated that the document presented by his country's delegation to the Conference contained principles and statements that merited consideration, but explained that he was willing to accept any change that would improve the text, without altering the principles set forth in the proposal.

Dr. DeLien (United States) called attention to the advisability of changing the title of the document since, at least in English, it was confusing for those unfamiliar with its background.

In this connection, Dr. Díaz Coller (Mexico) stated that the basic purpose was to associate the name Puerto Rico with the agreements on basic health principles adopted at that Conference, but that perhaps the Conference, its site, and the year it was held could be mentioned in the title.

After an exchange of views, it was agreed to change the title to "Declaration of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference (San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1958)."

A working party was then appointed, consisting of the Representatives of Mexico, Peru, and the United States, to study the wording of the document.

At the seventh session the Chairman announced, on behalf of the working party, that the latter had studied the aforesaid document and, bearing in mind that the Conference had approved it in principle, restricted its changes to matters that had no bearing on substance (Document CE37/4, Rev. 1).

After examining, item by item, the text submitted by the working party, the Executive Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION XIII

CE37.R13

The Executive Committee,

Considering that the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference approved in principle a document entitled "Health Charter of Puerto Rico" and agreed to transmit it to the 36th Meeting of the Executive Committee so that the latter might study it and make its recommendations to the Directing Council; and

Considering that the Executive Committee agreed on that occasion to defer the study of the document until the 37th Meeting, deeming that, because of the importance of such a document, it should be given detailed study,

RESOLVES:

To transmit to the XI Meeting of the Directing Council the proposed "Declaration of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference (San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1958)," contained in Document CE37/4, Rev. 1, (Annex II).

14. Provisional Draft Agenda for the XI Meeting of the Directing Council,
XI Meeting of the Regional Committee of the WHO

Document CE37/5 on this topic was presented at the sixth session, at which Dr. Orellana (Venezuela) presided.

Mr. Olivero (Guatemala) pointed out that, in conformity with Resolution XXXII of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference, the XI Meeting of the Directing Council will be of shorter duration than previous meetings. It would be helpful, therefore, if ceremonial arrangements could be kept to a minimum so that the maximum time possible will be available for studying the topics. He also called attention to the advisability of informing the governments that the XII Meeting is due to be held away from Washington, since this would facilitate offers of sites for the meeting.

The Secretariat announced that, in convoking the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, attention would be called to the fact that one of the topics to be discussed will be the selection of a site for the XII Meeting. Interested governments would then have time enough to instruct their representatives.

Dr. Bustamante (Mexico) proposed that, in addition to giving the information mentioned by the Secretariat, the letter of convocation be accompanied by a list of countries where meetings of the Directing Council and the Conference have been held to date.

It was so agreed.

Mr. Olivero (Guatemala) proposed that the following topic be added to the preliminary draft agenda presented by the Director: "Other matters."

The Committee unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION XIV

CE37.R14

The Executive Committee,

Having examined the preliminary draft agenda (Document CD11/1) prepared by the Director for the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, XI Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization, which will take place in Washington, D.C., in 1959; and

Considering that Article 10-B of the Constitution provides that "the agenda for the meeting of the Council shall be prepared in advance by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and approved by the Executive Committee," and that, pursuant to Article 14-c of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, Member Governments may propose topics up to 21 days prior to the meeting at which such topics are to be discussed,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the preliminary draft agenda prepared by the Director (Document CD11/1), with the additional topic "Other Matters."
2. To authorize the Director to include in the aforesaid draft agenda such additional topics as may be proposed in due time by the Member Governments and organizations entitled to propose subjects.

15. Dates of the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, XI Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO, and of the Meetings of the Executive Committee

At the sixth session the Secretariat reported, with reference to Document CE37/9, that the most convenient dates for the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, to be held at PASB headquarters, would be 21 to 30 September. This means that there would be nine working days available for the discussions. The meeting of the Executive Committee to take place immediately after the Council meeting could be held 1 October.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION XV

CE37.R15

The Executive Committee,

Considering the terms of Resolution IX of the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference and Resolution XI adopted at the present meeting of the Committee; and

Taking into account Document CE37/9 presented by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau,

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct the Director to convoke the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, XI Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO, for the dates 21 to 30 September 1959.

2. To instruct the Director to convoke the 38th Meeting of the Executive Committee to take place during the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, and to convoke the 39th Meeting for 1 October 1959.

16. Portrait honoring the Director Emeritus of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

During the sixth session, the Secretariat reported that the Director of the Bureau wished to suggest to the Executive Committee the suitability that a portrait of the Director Emeritus of the Bureau, Dr. Fred L. Soper, occupy a place of honor at the headquarters building, in view of his merits as Director of the Bureau from 1947 to 1959. It was pointed out that the Bureau already has a portrait of Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, who served as Director prior to Dr. Soper.

The Chairman, reflecting the sentiments of the members of the Committee, expressed the Committee's satisfaction at the Director's suggestion.

The Committee then unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION XVI

CE37.R16

The Executive Committee,

Recognizing the valuable service rendered by Dr. Fred L. Soper, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, 1947-1959;

Considering that the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference declared Dr. Fred L. Soper Director Emeritus of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau; and

Having in mind that a portrait of the first Director Emeritus of the Bureau, Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, now occupies a place of honor in the headquarters of the Organization,

RESOLVES:

1. That a portrait of Dr. Fred L. Soper, Director Emeritus of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, occupy a place of honor at the Bureau headquarters,

2. To authorize the Director to make the necessary funds available, within the budget, to carry out the above decision.

17. Decentralization of Activities of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to the Zone Offices

At the seventh session the Chairman, speaking as Representative of Mexico, presented Document CE37/18. He stated that the Government of his country had proposed this topic in the understanding that, in order to carry out its functions efficiently and expeditiously as executive organ of the PAHO, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau had established zone offices and decentralized to them certain functions. The Chairman added that decentralization makes for speedier and more effective collaboration with Member Governments, as the experience of PAHO and the WHO has shown. This is particularly true since there is an ever increasing demand for consultative and advisory services on the part of the countries, a need to train national personnel, and a wide diversity in the health problems of the various countries within one zone. He stressed the fact that the Bureau, serving as Regional Office of WHO, must carry out a certain number of specific functions that depend on policies and programs of world-wide scope. He added that there occurs at times, in the staff of the PASB, a predominance of public health professionals from a very small number of countries, thereby reducing the interchange of experience, orientation, and training, which constitutes one of the primary needs of, and one of the greatest benefits to be gained from, international organizations. Finally, he pointed out that when the delegation of Mexico prepared the draft resolution appearing in Document CE37/18, it was not yet aware of the Bureau's critical financial situation. However, when the delegation of Mexico learned of this situation, it considered it inadvisable to suggest concrete decentralization

measures that might incur additional expenditures. He therefore announced that the Mexican delegation was substituting the draft resolution referred to with another whose operative part recommends that the Director submit a report to the XI Meeting of the Directing Council on the manner in which decentralization has been carried out, the problems it presents, and the future plans of the Bureau with respect to this subject.

Mr. Olivero (Guatemala) stressed the importance of the topic and stated that, in his opinion, it merited more careful consideration by the Committee. Dr. Orellana (Venezuela) said he understood that the report to be requested of the Director should be with a view to expansion, within the Bureau's financial possibilities, of the responsibilities of the zone offices. He pointed out that the staff of the six zone offices, without taking into account project personnel, is not large if it is borne in mind that this staff has to serve several countries. Although decentralization is always expensive, this expense is offset by greater efficiency effected in the services. He thought that the zone offices should have greater responsibilities, although for the moment they should not undertake certain types of activities such as those connected with training and consultants, which should be carried out at the headquarters level.

The Director stated that decentralization constitutes one of the basic structural patterns not only of PASB and WHO but of many other international organizations. It is also an essential feature of public health activities. An international agency, he added, cannot in its activities follow a pattern different from that of the national services.

The policy of decentralization has predominated in the PASB almost since its foundation, and in the last 15 years decentralization has continued to increase as the Bureau's activities have expanded. The field offices became zone offices, and this experience was no doubt one of the precedents that the WHO took most into account when it established its own regional structure. The Director considered it very important that the Committee and the Council wished to know in detail what has been done and what can still be done as regards technical and administrative decentralization, for in matters of public health the technical and the administrative factors cannot be separated. Decentralization is a continuous process, but it should not be carried to an extreme where it becomes disarticulation in which unity of policies, orientation, and procedures is lost, for such a situation would convert the Bureau into a type of zone federation.

Moreover, the PASB must carry out certain given functions incumbent on it as Regional Office of WHO, and this requires a system of administration and of procedures that is not easily maintained at the zone level. He was grateful for the opportunity to present a detailed study on this matter, adding that in its preparation he would take into account the views of the delegation of Mexico, as set forth in the document it presented, as well as the opinions expressed by the other representatives. He pointed out that the Bureau prepares a quarterly report on the geographical distribution of the staff, and said that this aspect would be included in his report.

The Director went on to say, that as of 1 January 1959 the Bureau had 699 full-time staff members (excluding temporary staff) to meet the needs of 230 projects. These figures indicate the magnitude of the work the Bureau

is carrying out, even in its present financial situation, with such a limited staff. Finally, he stressed the difficulties encountered in recruiting qualified personnel and in finding in the countries technicians able to render advisory services to the Member Governments.

Dr. Curtis (United States) suggested that, in view of the importance of the topic, the report it was proposed to request from the Director be studied first by the next meeting of the Committee, to be held during the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, for subsequent transmittal to the Council.

Dr. Rodrigues (Brazil), Mr. Olivero (Guatemala), and Dr. Orellana (Venezuela) supported the proposal of the Representative of the United States.

Finally, the Executive Committee approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION XVII

CE37.R17

The Executive Committee,

Bearing in mind the diversity of health problems in the different countries comprising the zones of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau; and

Considering that the policy of administrative and technical decentralization has given favorable results in recent years, but that the process must be a continuous one,

RESOLVES:

To request the Director of the Bureau to present a report to the next meeting of the Executive Committee describing the present status of the decentralization of activities of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, the Bureau's experience in this matter, and the measures it may be proposed to take in the future.

18. Membership of Colombia in WHO

At the eighth session the Director informed the Executive Committee that a communication had been received from Dr. José A. Jácome, Minister of Public Health of Colombia, reporting that the Congress of his country had recently ratified the Constitution of WHO, which signified Colombia's immediate entry into the World Health Organization. The Director expressed his satisfaction at this news, which meant that all the Americas now had membership in that Organization.

The Executive Committee was highly gratified to learn of this important event and unanimously agreed to send a cable to the Minister of Public Health of Colombia offering congratulations on that country's entry into WHO.

19. Resolution of the Special Committee of the Council of the Organization of American States to Study the Formulation of New Measures of Economic Cooperation

The Director informed the Executive Committee that the Pan American Health Organization, as a specialized inter-American organization, had been invited to send an observer to the meeting convened by the Organization of American States, beginning on 28 April in Buenos Aires, to study the formulation of new measures of economic cooperation among the countries of the Americas. He stated that both in the address he delivered before that Committee and in private conversations with representatives of the governments attending the meeting he had emphasized the close interrelation between some of the main bases on which the policies of the Pan American Health Organization rest and the measures of economic cooperation among the countries of the Hemisphere. He added that the text of that address had been distributed to the Executive Committee members on the previous day, and that in it he had stressed the permanent and reciprocal relationship between health, the economy, and social progress, as well as the need for investing in public health programs of continent-wide scope a greater amount of funds than the majority of the countries have at their disposal. In his address he had placed particular emphasis on the importance of two factors: (1) water supply, because of its importance not only to health but to industrial development, and because of its effect on environmental sanitation and also on the increase in tourist trade; and (2) malaria eradication, in view of the difficulties encountered by some countries in making the essential expenditures, and because of the great benefits that

the eradication of this disease is bringing and will bring when it is achieved in all parts of the Hemisphere. The Director then stated that he had been informed that on 7 May the Special Committee of the OAS had adopted the following draft resolution:

"The Council of the Organization of American States,

CONSIDERING:

The permanent and reciprocal relationship between health, economic development, the standard of living, and well-being;

That experience shows that health programs yield a greater return if they are included in over-all development programs, and that, moreover, their effect is limited if they are carried out within a static economic system;

That the technical aid of international organizations is highly useful in the formulation of such programs;

That it is most advisable for public health activities to be included in the measures for economic cooperation that are being taken by the American countries through the Organization of American States;

That the present public health needs of the American countries can be met on a progressive basis only with the use of funds that the governments do not have available; and

That the Pan American Health Organization is the specialized inter-American organization in the field of public health and that it works through the Pan American Sanitary Bureau,

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to the governments that, in programming and negotiating the financing of economic development, they include public health programs, inasmuch as they are essential to, and supplement, economic programs.

2. To recommend to the governments that they seek technical advice from the Pan American Sanitary Bureau for the formulation of the above-mentioned programs."

The Director concluded by saying that this measure would facilitate the inclusion of public health projects in plans for economic development, and at the same time would enable the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to give technical endorsement to projects of this kind for which long-term, low-interest loans are requested from the international banks.

The Executive Committee congratulated the Director on this advancement in the international relations of the Organization.

Dr. Orellana (Venezuela) proposed that the Committee voice its satisfaction by taking note of the aforesaid resolution, with expressions of its sincere appreciation.

Mr. Olivero (Guatemala) stressed the need for giving careful study to programs that promise the surest results, in an endeavor to make certain that the first steps taken in this direction will meet with success, for this in turn would open up ever-broader possibilities for answering the countries' increasing interest in public health.

Finally, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION XVIII

CE37.R18

The Executive Committee,

Bearing in mind the resolution on public health projects, adopted by the Special Committee of the Organization of American States to study the formulation of new measures of economic cooperation; and

Considering that the aforesaid resolution opens the possibility of obtaining long-term and low-interest loans for the execution of public health programs,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note, with sincere appreciation, of the resolution on measures of economic cooperation for public health projects, adopted by the Special Committee of the OAS at its meeting in Buenos Aires.

2. To express to the Special Committee, on behalf of the Pan American Health Organization, its satisfaction at the decision taken, which recognizes the importance of public health to economic development, and from which it is expected that great benefits will result for progress in the Americas.

3. To instruct the Director to transmit the present resolution to the Member Governments.

20. Proposed Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee

At the eighth session, Dr. DeLien (United States) proposed an amendment to Article 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee to the effect that the time limit for transmittal of the provisional agenda to the Member Governments and of all pertinent documents to the representatives be increased to 30 days prior to the meeting, so that there would be more time available for studying these documents.

Dr. Orellana (Venezuela) seconded the proposal of the United States Representative but pointed out that, if this amendment were approved, it would be advisable to change also the time limit of 21 days stipulated in Article 10-c of the Rules, in connection with the proposing of agenda topics.

Mr. Olivero (Guatemala) suggested that the study of the proposed amendments to Articles 10 and 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee be included on the agenda of the Committee's 38th Meeting, and that, until such time as these amendments are approved, the Director be instructed to send out all the documents in question as early as possible before the meeting.

It was so agreed.

21. Closure of the Meeting

On conclusion of the discussions of the Executive Committee, Dr. DeLien (United States) said that this had been one of the best international meetings he had attended, and he congratulated the Director and all the staff of the Bureau on the excellent presentation of the documents and the efficient manner in which the work had been carried out. He also congratulated the Chairman on the able manner in which he had led the discussions, and all members of the Executive Committee on their skill in solving the complex problems presented for their consideration.

The Representatives of Guatemala, Peru, and Venezuela, supported the statement of Dr. DeLien.

The Chairman thanked the representatives for their remarks and expressed his appreciation to all the members for the full cooperation they gave him.

He stressed the value of the work done by the Secretariat and proposed that the Executive Committee express its appreciation to the Department of State of the United States for the facilities made available for the meeting, to the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service for the courtesies extended, and to the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and his staff for their assistance to the Executive Committee.

It was so agreed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Chairman of the Committee and the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Secretary ex officio, sign the present Final Report in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

DONE in Washington, D. C., United States of America, this eighth day of May, 1959. The Secretary shall deposit the original texts in the archives of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and shall send copies thereof to the Member Governments.

Chairman of the Executive Committee
Representative of Mexico

Director of the Pan American
Sanitary Bureau
Secretary ex officio of the
Executive Committee

A N N E X I

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO THE DIRECTING COUNCIL ON THE
PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET OF THE
PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION FOR 1960
(Document CE37/17)



*executive committee of
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

*working party of
the regional committee*

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



37th Meeting
Washington, D.C.
May 1959

CE37/17 (Eng.)
8 May 1959
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO THE DIRECTING COUNCIL ON THE
PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET OF THE
PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION FOR 1960

At the first and second plenary sessions of its 37th Meeting, the Executive Committee examined the proposed program and budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1960 (Official Document No. 24 and Document CE37/11), prepared by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

The Director presented to the Executive Committee some considerations of a general nature on the proposed program and budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1960.

He began by explaining that the programs of the Organization are based on the policies established by its governing bodies and on information which the Bureau is constantly accumulating with regard to health problems in the countries and their respective priorities. Of equal importance are the quantity and quality of existing knowledge and experience useful for solving these problems and the desire of the Member Governments in relation to those considered most urgent and for which international cooperation through PAHO is required. These were the guiding considerations in preparing the 1960 program based on the provisional draft that was submitted to the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference, and now being presented to the Committee for more detailed analysis. A review of this kind will make it possible to set guidelines for the Bureau to follow in preparing the document to be submitted to the Directing Council. The Director emphasized this point because he recognizes that the Bureau is an instrument of the governing bodies, which establish the principles to be followed.

The program presented is based on advice received from the experts of the PASB, stationed in the various countries, who are in direct contact with the governments, analyzing the needs and establishing priorities, under the Bureau's broad lines of action: dissemination of knowledge and experience; technical advice for improving public health services so that

this knowledge can be placed within reach of the countries' inhabitants; and advisory services to the Member Governments in matters of organization, understood in the higher sense of leadership and basic policy in the interest of public health progress. The three broad lines of direct action that have been followed by the Pan American Health Organization can be plainly discerned in this program.

First of all there is the objective of eliminating the major pestilential diseases, of eradicating communicable diseases as existing knowledge permits, a task in which the malaria program is first in importance, not only because of the widespread prevalence of this disease in the Hemisphere -- malaria is still a threat to 86 million persons, for whom programs are in various stages of development -- but also, and equally important, because of its economic significance. The 1960 program also reflects the objective of cooperating with the Member Governments in the eradication of other communicable diseases, smallpox, for instance, which should have already disappeared from our Continent and for which, fortunately, we now have in progress a program of eradication. The program also reflects the mandate given by the Pan American Sanitary Conference, of 1947 for the eradication of the urban vector of yellow fever. So much progress has been made during recent years that we believe that a final effort is necessary to eliminate this vector from the Americas. The proposed program includes another series of projects for the control and eradication of other communicable diseases concerning which there is sufficient knowledge and experience and which the governments consider to be a problem.

The second great objective can best be described as the integration of health functions in accordance with principles set forth by the Pan American Health Organization in 1951. The purpose is to assist governments in concentrating, rather than dispersing, their efforts so that health problems can be solved and better use made of the limited technical resources available in the Hemisphere. A key feature in this process of integration is the technical advice to governments for the improvement of national and local services. In this 1960 program steps are being taken to carry forward the recommendations of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference that special attention be given to activities in public health administration, environmental sanitation, training of personnel, maternal and child health, and tuberculosis. Naturally, these cannot be presented as fully developed activities in the program for 1960, but they are sufficiently evident to indicate a line of continuity for the Bureau to follow insofar as the Member Governments may wish it to do so. The Director expressed his belief that in this process of integration of health functions curative medicine should not be divorced from preventive medicine. It is no longer open to question that the entire health process is one and that treatment and prevention of disease should be conducted as

part of a single harmonious pattern. It would be inconceivable today, from a public health standpoint, to attack the prevalent causes of infant mortality while forgetting the sick children themselves; treatment without prevention, far from solving the problem; will often maintain it. In the field of tuberculosis, much mention is made of chemoprophylaxis through the use of isoniacid, but it is completely contrary to all sound principles of public health to neglect therapeutics and concentrate exclusively on preventive measures. Hence the interest of the Bureau in finding a regional consultant for medical care so as to supplement the activities started some years ago in various countries.

With regard to the third broad objective, namely the training of personnel, which is a matter of such great importance to public health, the governing bodies of the Organization have made frequent reference, in the course of its growth, to the need for new experts, because public health, owing to its essentially dynamic nature, is closely related to the progress of our society. In describing these lines of action, the Director added a fourth in which the Bureau has already done some important experimental work and which is awakening considerable interest in the World Health Organization: he referred to research, applied research, to which our Organization should devote its resources for the purpose of studying problems and practical public health methods. He made it clear that he was not referring to research for its own sake, that is, to the free play of ideas in pursuit of results that may have no immediate importance. While in no way underestimating the importance of pure research, what he specifically had in mind was the need for studies that would lead to the solution of problems prevalent in the Americas: the type of work that has been conducted by the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama and that which is now being done on resistance of malaria vectors.

These are the four great objectives reflected in our programs for 1960. At this point, the Director asked whether specialized health workers could ever be satisfied with progress only in their own particular field of endeavor. Even if we were to succeed in eradicating communicable diseases, particularly malaria, if our national services were staffed with persons especially trained for each job and had everything needed for required research, would this mean that our work was accomplished and would lead to the well-being of those whom we serve? This does not seem to be so, for it has been shown that public health makes no headway in a stagnant economy and that there are other activities as important as public health to the general welfare. Suffice it to mention such factors as proper nutrition, sound and effective sanitation measures, housing, education to help people adjust to their environment, recreation, proper development of natural resources, agriculture, and industry, and efficient government. The Director then added that, in accordance with present-day thinking,

public health cannot go its own way but must progress in concert with all other activities intended to foster economic development in the interest of social progress and well-being. This was his interpretation of the spirit of our Constitution when it provides that the Pan American Health Organization shall coordinate efforts of the countries of the Western Hemisphere to combat disease, lengthen life, and in this way contribute to the people's well-being. This mandate from the governing bodies means that the joint efforts of governments with the collaboration of international agencies, particularly this Organization through PASB, will increase in effectiveness the more they become part of an over-all process of economic development. This interpretation is in keeping with the historic moment through which we are passing in the Americas, where there is evidence that the governments are firmly resolved to join forces in promoting better use of our natural wealth for development and progress. The Pan American Health Organization cannot remain aloof from this movement, exemplified by "Operation Pan America," a proposal put forth by the President of Brazil and enthusiastically received by all the American governments. On the contrary, it was the Director's belief that it should join in the movement, offering the benefit of the oldest traditions and greatest experience in international organization.

Not only would public health find a broader and sounder frame of reference, but there would be greater likelihood of obtaining resources for those permanent activities, related to the normal development of individuals and communities, whose capital requirements are not always within the means of all Member Governments.

In introducing the documents, it was pointed out that this program and budget had been presented in provisional form to the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference along with the parallel proposals for the other funds, that is, Other Funds of PAHO, the Regular Budget of WHO, and Technical Assistance funds coming through WHO. This provisional draft, contained in Official Document No. 24, had been prepared on the basis of prior discussion with governments. Recently, as part of the long and complex process of preparation of the program and budget for 1960, it had again been discussed with the governments a year after the preliminary discussions. The modifications here presented are thus the result of a reappraisal of the expressed needs of the governments, in the light of the broad priorities of the Organization.

Task of the Committee

Several members of the Committee recalled that, in making comments on the proposed program and budget for 1960, no member of the Executive Committee could, at this time, commit his government to any specific figure for the budget level. The Committee considered that its present duty was, in representation of all the members of the Organization, to examine in detail the practicability and feasibility of the proposed program and budget from the standpoint of needs and resources.

Relation of Requests to Resources

The Committee noted that "the total requests for collaboration as indicated by the above-mentioned consultations with governments exceed the anticipated resources of the Organization by more than \$1,500,000" and an explanation was requested on how this figure was arrived at and what criteria were used in deleting projects requested by governments. It was explained that this figure represented the total of projects and parts of projects which could not be included in the budget within the resources available to the Bureau from all funds, and that only those projects having the greatest urgency were included. It had, in fact, often been necessary to reduce the amount proposed even though this involved eliminating desirable portions of projects. As in previous years, the Director planned to include as an annex to the budget document a selection of projects which could not be included because of lack of resources.

Influence of Cost of Living

In connection with the effect of the increase in cost of living on the budget, a factor which had motivated the 34th Meeting of the Executive Committee to recommend a compensatory increase in the 1959 budget, it was stated that it was very difficult to assign a specific percentage or amount to this factor. Mention was made of some of the items contributing to increased costs, such as changes in post adjustments, increased costs for various services (air travel, cables, etc.), and increased rental costs in some countries.

There was discussion of the problems connected with recruitment of personnel, and it was recognized that the most important criterion is the need for the Organization to have the most qualified personnel available.

Costs of Zone Offices

In reviewing the costs for the zone offices, attention was called to the increase of \$42,151.00 in the cost for Zone Office I and it was further noted that, even allowing for the very generous contribution of the Government of Venezuela, the costs for this Office to the Organization in 1960 would be more than twice what had been spent in 1958. In explanation, it was pointed out that the 1958 figures were not comparable since for half the year the Office had been located in Kingston at a much smaller level, as only a Field Office rather than a Zone Office, and was not responsible for programs in Venezuela, which at that time was in Zone IV. It was further noted that although the activities of any zone office are largely administrative, the professional staff do provide an important technical service as advisers to governments.

In further explanation of the increase in costs in the Zone I Office as compared with the estimates in Official Document No. 24, it was stated that at the time of preparation of that document the local salary scale had not been established. Such a scale must be based on a careful study of existing employment practices in the city as well as the general level of living costs. Note was also made that expansion of the activities of the Zone had made it necessary to add two additional local posts. The Director stated that in view of the observations by the Committee, a thorough review of costs of the Zone Office I will be made.

Projects Financed with WHO/TA Funds

There was considerable discussion regarding the problem of assigning projects to financing with WHO/TA funds and the difficulties involved in transferring such projects to or from the regular budget of the Organization. Of particular interest were the projects Surinam and Netherlands Antilles-1, (Aedes aegypti eradication) and Haiti-16, (Public Health Services). The fear was expressed that transfer of posts to WHO/TA funds might subject the project to instability. In explanation, a review was given of the complicated process of Technical Assistance planning; it was stated that unless specific plans were made to have the countries include in their target figures firm proposals for the use of Technical Assistance funds previously assigned for health in that country, there was danger of reduction of the total amount of TA funds assigned for health projects. Previous experience had indicated that this danger was very real, as evidenced by a progressive decline of the proportion of funds available to WHO from 22 per cent at the start of the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance to approximately 17 per cent today. When project Surinam and Netherlands Antilles-1 was originally planned, one sanitarian was called for. Development of the project and prospects of increased accomplishment called for assignment of an additional sanitarian, but since this post could not be fitted within the Technical Assistance target figure for Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles, provision was made for it in the regular budget of the Organization. In contrast, there was room within the TA target figure for Haiti for two posts which at the time of preparation of

Official Document No. 24 were planned for the PAHO regular budget. Assurance was given that continuity of an urgent project would not suffer because of such necessary transfers.

Special Projects for Fellowships

In connection with projects for several countries, query was made as to why special fellowship projects had been deleted when these projects allowed countries needed flexibility in making plans for training personnel of various categories. Furthermore, emphasis had been given at the time of the discussions of the 1959 program and budget to the need for more fellowship funds. It was pointed out that the Director had wished to concentrate activities in fewer projects in order to maintain major program objectives in a less diffuse framework. For this reason, where a country had a project related to general public health administration, provision was made in that project for needed fellowships and a separate fellowships project was unnecessary. Allocation of fellowships in this manner did not imply any limitation in flexibility and the fellowship could be used for a variety of subjects as needed in the development of the country's public health program. It was noted, however, that in certain countries, it was necessary to maintain a specific fellowship project with funds of the regular budget of the Organization because the general public health administration project was financed with Technical Assistance funds and the entire available monies from that fund were needed to cover the consultants.

Program Areas

While in the review of the specific programs attention was given to all of the subjects proposed for activities, certain subjects were the object of special questions.

Leprosy

It was noted that projects for the control of leprosy were being carried out in several areas and that a definite plan for a survey followed by control measures, was in process. In Central America a survey now being completed under Project AMRO-1149, the general interzone project for leprosy control, has resulted in definition of a **geographic belt** where active cases of leprosy were occurring. As a result, therefore, a new project, AMRO-202, is proposed for leprosy control in Zone III. By contrast, it was noted that in Zone IV funds proposed for leprosy control could be reduced since in these areas, less short-term consultation will be required than had been previously anticipated.

It was pointed out that in this field, as in others, the principle of the initial approach to a subject through an interzone project to set the general basis for action, followed by more specialized projects in individual countries and areas, had proved to be efficient. Several members of the Committee commented that for such an important subject it would have been desirable to have more funds available.

Smallpox

Reference was made in this connection to the mandates of the Pan American Sanitary Conferences for a hemisphere-wide eradication plan. Great satisfaction was taken from the fact that whereas in 1949, 14 countries were reporting smallpox, in the first three months of 1959 cases were reported for only four countries. For example, Peru has not had a case of smallpox since 1954.

It was reported that in Colombia, which had one of the highest incidences of smallpox in the Continent, a house-to-house vaccination program was initiated in October 1955 with the aim of covering at least 80 per cent of the population in five years. At first the project developed slowly, but in the last 12 months it has gained new momentum. Five million persons have already been vaccinated and reported cases of smallpox in Colombia have dropped from 7,200 in 1954 to 1,600 in 1958, the major part of these due to a heavy outbreak in the Department of Tolima.

While there was no intention of decreasing the collaboration by the Organization in this field in Colombia (Colombia-17), it had been possible to reduce the estimate considerably since in addition to the supplies and fellowships previously provided by the Organization and by UNICEF, additional financing to take care of current needs for supplies had been obtained through the WHO/TA Contingency Fund.

In Ecuador, 500,000 inhabitants have already been vaccinated and the incidence of the disease has been reduced considerably in the capital city. The vaccination campaign is now being extended to other areas. The laboratory of the National Institute of Hygiene in Guayaquil produces good-quality vaccine, at the rate of 100,000 doses monthly, and has installations that would enable it to increase this production if necessary. For this reason, it is to be expected that by 1962 the vaccination campaign will have covered the entire national territory.

Tuberculosis

With reference to tuberculosis, it was noted that the interest of several countries in taking advantage of newer developments in chemotherapy and in BCG campaigns would result in expansion of the interzone project (AMRO-110) to provide, inter alia, survey teams which would define the problem and lay the basis for a sound preventive program.

Mental Health

Question was raised as to how many countries were considering programs in the field of mental health. It was explained that in those countries where plans for the control of urgent communicable disease programs were well along, practical projects were being considered, such as that in Argentina for the training of psychiatric nurses and those in Jamaica and Venezuela for assistance regarding the administration of mental hospitals and out-patient services. In Chile, a plan was under discussion regarding a seminar in alcoholism, a problem of considerable importance in the field of mental health.

An intercountry project is also planned in mental health to survey the needs and resources of the countries to determine those areas where practical programs can be developed. The Director recognizes the great importance of the field of mental health, but in view of current budgetary limitations must consider this subject only in the light of other urgent activities.

Food and Drug Services

In connection with project AMRO-150 (Food and Drug Services), the Director was requested to review the present status of the Bureau's collaboration in this field. It was mentioned that the Bureau has active projects related to Food and Drug Control in Brazil and Chile and that under the interzone project two consultants are now being recruited to survey the situation in the various countries with a view to studying the feasibility of a regional reference laboratory service.

Nutrition

The Director was asked to review the programs in nutrition services and to indicate to what extent the countries are applying the research being carried on at INCAP. The Director referred to recent publications of INCAP and mentioned some examples of research studies with obvious implication for practical public health nutrition. He also made mention of investigations on the iodization of salt to combat endemic goiter, on the use of diets based on indigenous foods rich in proteins to combat infant malnutrition, on the development of school gardens (as planned in Chile and Paraguay through tripartite projects between the Government, UNICEF, and PAHO), and other activities.

Environmental Sanitation

The Committee noted with satisfaction the increased attention being given to this important field. The Committee emphasized the importance of water supply as one of the most urgent problems in the countries, as set forth in Resolutions IV and XL of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference. Development of urban water supplies (AMRO-187) is a basic step which will

favorably affect sanitation and health conditions in general. Furthermore, the program and budget will now include plans for a sanitary engineer in every zone office through the allocation of funds for such posts in Zones V and VI. A sanitary engineer is also being assigned to the Field Office in El Paso which, as noted below, is carrying on excellent work along the border.

Concern was expressed over the elimination of the item related to Sanitation of Travel Centers (AMRO-108) because of the continued general increase in travel and the number of persons exposed to hazard in this connection. It was explained that the manual which had been prepared regarding minimum sanitation standards for travel centers would probably be issued in July or August of 1959; its introduction to the countries and advice for making effective use of the recommendations of the manual were considered an important regular activity for the zone and project engineers.

Advisory Committees

In connection with the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sanitation (project AMRO-39), the Director reported that he plans to expand the use of this device in other fields so that the Bureau staff may have the benefit of the invaluable experience of the technicians of the Hemisphere. He mentioned specifically the field of education and also the fact that a group of experts was being called to advise him on the administrative problems connected with introducing a system of "performance budgeting."

Questions regarding specific projects

It was pointed out that the decrease in allotment for Peru-26, Orientation in Public Health, did not reflect any lack of interest in what the Director actually considered an important project since it represented collaboration with a national in-service training course. Rather, the reduction resulted from a reappraisal of the way the Organization could collaborate with the Government for the maximum success of the project. It was considered more desirable, for example, to award any fellowship for study abroad which might result from this project, through the regular fellowship program.

In regard to the Typhus Vaccination Program (project Peru-54) several members of the Committee emphasized the need to give public recognition to the role played by the Government of Peru in facilitating the testing of so important a procedure for preventing a serious disease, as well as to PASB collaboration in this project. Only a few days before the meeting of the Executive Committee word had been received that the preliminary results of the vaccination program indicated a strong likelihood that the vaccination was highly effective. If this is confirmed, further collaboration will be supplied to Peru for the production of this vaccine.

The combination of the projects Mexico-20, Virus Center, and Mexico-28 Public Health Laboratory, had been effected under the previously mentioned principle of trying to combine related projects. A saving had been achieved through the expectation that consultant services could be provided by the same person.

Question was raised as to why two projects for statistics in Brazil had been combined in project AMRO-201, particularly since Zone V contained only one country. It was explained that even though the latter was true it was planned to have a general statistical consultant in every zone and Zone V should not be an exception. Furthermore, the objectives of the individual projects could be better achieved through the device of a single generalized zone consultant.

Several members of the Committee expressed great satisfaction at the expansion of the El Paso Field Office and called attention to the important and increasingly effective work being carried out by this office along the 2,000 miles of the United States-Mexico Border. Great progress had been made through the efforts of the small Bureau staff to coordinate programs of health authorities in neighboring states and countries across the Border.

The Malaria Technical Advisory Services (project AMRO-90) is planned to be shifted to the Special Malaria Fund, as has been suggested by the governing bodies at several previous budget reviews. It was noted that there would still be the basic nucleus of the central unit for malaria under the regular budget in Part II.

An explanation was asked for the reduction in the program for Diarrheal Diseases in Childhood (AMRO-94), in view of the great importance of this subject and its prominence as a cause of death. It was pointed out that the reduction reflected no lack of interest but was based on the availability of a grant from the National Institutes of Health of the U. S. Public Health Service to support the investigational portion of this project. Provision for advisory services to governments would be continued.

Summary and Recommendations

In the considered opinion of the Committee, the program and budget as presented by the Director in Documents CE37/11 and Official Document No. 24 is well conceived and interprets in excellent fashion the wishes and requirements of the governments, within the established priorities of the Organization. The Executive Committee therefore recommends to the Directing Council the adoption of the proposed budget prepared by the Director and examined at the present meeting.

CE37/19 (Eng.)
ANNEX II

A N N E X I I

DECLARATION OF THE XV PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, 1958
(Document CE37/4, Rev.1)

*executive committee of
the directing council*



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

*working party of
the regional committee*

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



37th Meeting
Washington, D. C.
May 1959

CE37/4, Rev. 1 (Eng.)
8 May 1959
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

DECLARATION OF THE XV PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, 1958

The XV Pan American Sanitary Conference,

After considering the reports submitted by the Member Governments of the Pan American Health Organization on the health progress achieved during the period 1954 to 1957, and after taking note of the discussions which also reflect the status of health in the Americas,

Formulates the present "Declaration of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1958," in which it

AFFIRMS:

That there has been marked progress in health in the countries of the Americas resulting from the various campaigns against preventable diseases and from the programs for the promotion and restoration of health;

That nevertheless there are still many health problems that cause an appreciable loss of lives and the reduction of working capacity of the inhabitants of the Americas;

That in many countries there are appreciable deficiencies in environmental sanitation and in the health organizations, as well as an insufficiency of means for public health programs, which should reach all the inhabitants of the countries;

That the funds assigned by the governments for public health are disproportionate to population numbers and in many cases not in harmony with the nations' total financial resources;

That health programs are still not given preferential consideration in the plans for economic development;

That the number of specialized professionals, technicians, and auxiliary workers in medicine and public health is insufficient for the growing needs and demands of the countries; and

In view of these facts, and in the desire to advance solutions, the Conference

DECLARES:

- I. That health care is a prime obligation of governments and peoples and that it should be within reach of all the inhabitants of the Americas as an effective means for attaining well-being for the individual and the family;
- II. That health is an inalienable first right of every individual;
- III. That health is the culmination of the cooperative efforts of the individual, the family, and the State;
- IV. That health should be given a preferential place in all programs for the economic development of societies;
- V. That health is an index to the economic, cultural, and social conditions of the individual and the community;

And in the interest of attaining the highest level of health for the people of the Hemisphere,

RECOMMENDS:

1. The assignment of preference to activities for the promotion, protection, and restoration of health of the American peoples, and the increase of resources for this purpose.
2. The planning of national health activities, with strict priorities, and with special attention given to environmental sanitation.
3. The preparation and training of professional, technical, and auxiliary personnel, according to the needs of the health programs.
4. The inclusion of health programs in any plan for economic development of the countries.
5. Full cooperation, mutual assistance, and continuous exchange of experience, information, and results among the countries, with a view to gradually resolving health problems.