

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY ORGANIZATION

INDEXED

Washington, D.C.
May 23-30, 1949

TOPIC II. REGIONAL BUDGET FOR 1950 - WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

1. Programme and Budget Estimates for 1950 to be considered
by the Second Health Assembly

Proposals for the services to be performed in Regions by the WHO are contained in the PROGRAMME AND BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1950, which the Director-General, in accordance with Article 55 of the Constitution, prepared and submitted to the Executive Board of WHO. The Executive Board, at its Third Session, adopted the following resolution:

"The Executive Board

ENDORSES and COMMENDS to the Second Health Assembly the proposed Programme and Budget of the World Health Organization for 1950 and

SUBMITS them in full confidence that all Members will give them favourable consideration."

The Programme and Budget Estimates for 1950 will therefore be considered by the Second Health Assembly in June.

2. Principles guiding the provision of services to Governments

The Executive Board, at its Second Session, authorized the Director-General to provide services to Governments and established as a guiding principle that the following points should be taken into consideration:

- (a) Decisions, plans or programmes of the World Health Assembly or Executive Board;
- (b) Decisions, plans or programmes of the United Nations or specialized agencies, if they relate to the subject of a request;
- (c) The importance of the problem to the whole health programme of the requesting country (if no plan exists, assistance may be offered in developing a plan preliminary to further consideration);

- (d) The ability of the country itself to provide the services required as measured by the availability of trained personnel, of means of training personnel or of foreign currency;
- (e) The probability of achieving successful and useful results;
- (f) Recommendations of expert committees, to which problems may be referred;
- (g) Reasonable assurance of satisfactory cooperation on the part of the Government throughout the programme (normally, the Government will be expected to contribute to the programme by meeting such costs within the country as can be met in domestic currency);
- (h) Reasonable assurance from the Government, where appropriate, that the programme will be continued, especially that the Government has, or will establish, a health organization with personnel and financial support adequate to continue the programme;
- (i) The desirability of making every effort to assure equitable distribution, if the requests should exceed the available budget (this may be accomplished by progressively stricter application of the guiding principles)."

3. Preparation of 1950 programme within budget limitations approved by the Second Health Assembly

Subsequent to the approval of a programme and budget for 1950 by the Second Health Assembly, the Director-General will take steps to establish the requirements for services to Governments on the basis of the following procedure:

- (a) Regional Directors will consult with Regional Committees and with individual Governments within their Region concerning their requirements during 1950 for services such as advisory and demonstration services, fellowships, medical literature and special teaching equipment, medical supplies, etc.
- (b) The Director-General will review the proposals and recommendations forwarded by Regional Directors and authorise allocations in the light of policies established by the Health Assembly and the Executive Board, and within the framework of budgetary limitations. It will be important therefore to have

meetings of Regional Committees as soon as possible after the Health Assembly. These meetings should take place not later than October in order to give adequate time for planning programmes for 1950 (as well as making recommendations for the budget for 1951, which must be prepared during November 1949 for presentation by the Director-General to the Executive Board at its first session in 1950).

4. Agreements with Governments for services to be rendered

In order to provide a basis for making available services and supplies to Governments, a draft agreement has been prepared which will be negotiated by the Regional Directors with appropriate Governments within their regions. The purpose of this agreement is to establish a framework within which arrangements can be made for individual programmes. The general agreement contains a provision (Article VIII) which authorises the National Health Administration to conclude special arrangements with WHO with respect to each individual programme, i.e., Malaria, Tuberculosis, Maternal and Child Health, etc. The individual arrangements specify in detail the purpose, extent, manner of operation and respective participation by the Government and WHO for each programme.

5. Budget for Regional Office

Budgetary requirements for the operation of the Regional Office in 1950 are dependent upon the extent and nature of services to be rendered. The Regional Director, in consultation with the Regional Committee, will make recommendations on the budget requirements of the Regional Office to the Director-General. The Director-General will consider the recommendations and make allocations in the light of policies or authorisations established by the Health Assembly and the Executive Board, within the framework of budgetary limitations.

Brock Chisholm