

directing council

regional committee



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



XVI Meeting

XVII Meeting

Washington, D. C.
September-October 1965

Provisional Agenda Item 6

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Submitted by Dr. Charles L. Williams (United States of America)
Chairman of the 51st and 52nd Meetings of the Executive Committee

I have the honor to submit to the Directing Council, pursuant to Article 9-C of the Constitution, this report on the work of the Executive Committee between September 1964 and September 1965, the period during which it held its 51st and 52nd Meetings.

At the 51st Meeting, which was held in Mexico City on 11 September 1964, after the close of the XV Meeting of the Directing Council, the representatives of Jamaica, Panama, and Venezuela, the three countries which the Directing Council had elected to the Executive Committee, took office. The following representatives were also present: Dr. Manoel José Ferreira (Brazil); Mr. Carlos A. Moreno Velázquez (Costa Rica); Dr. Miguel E. Bustamante (Mexico), and Dr. Charles L. Williams (United States of America). Dr. Carlos Quirós Salinas (Peru) attended as an Observer.

At the 51st Meeting I had the honor to be elected Chairman of the Executive Committee for the period covered by this report, and therefore presided over the 51st and 52nd Meetings of the Executive Committee. Dr. Manoel José Ferreira, the Representative of Brazil, was elected Vice-Chairman.

The 52nd Meeting, which was held in Washington, D.C., from 19 to 23 April 1965 was attended by the following representatives, alternates, and advisers: Dr. Manoel José Ferreira (Brazil); Mr. Francisco Castro Víquez (Costa Rica); Dr. Charles C. Wedderburn (Jamaica); Dr. Manuel B. Márquez Escobedo (Mexico); Dr. Alberto E. Calvo (Panama); Dr. Charles L. Williams, Dr. Benjamin D. Blood, Mr. Leonard M. Board, Mr. Howard B. Calderwood, Mr. Paul J. Byrnes, Dr. Jacques M. May, and Mr. Simon H. Wilson (United States of America); and Dr. Daniel Orellana (Venezuela). Mr. Milton P. Siegel, Assistant Director-General of the World Health Organization, and the following Observers were also present: Dr. Pedro Alvarez Tabío (Cuba); Dr. Carlos Quirós Salinas (Peru); Miss Christine Yvonne Henny and Mr. A.G.O. Smit (Kingdom of the Netherlands); and Mr. Armando Cassorla, Mrs. Alzora H. Eldridge, and Mr. Beryl Frank (Organization of American States).

Pursuant to Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure, the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is Secretary ex-officio of the Committee. Accordingly, Dr. Abraham Horwitz acted as Secretary.

The 51st Meeting considered the following agenda items:

Review of the Items referred to the Committee by the Directing Council

The Director of the Bureau reviewed the resolutions approved by the Directing Council calling specifically for action by the Executive Committee. They referred to the Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1966, Payment of Arrears, Financing of Malaria Eradication Program, Planning of Hospitals and Other Facilities, Organization of the Pan American Sanitary Conference, and the Relationship between Social Security Medical Programs and those of Ministries of Health or other Official Health Agencies. The Director explained in detail what steps would be taken to fulfill the instructions given by the Directing Council.

The Representative of Mexico suggested that a study be made of the health hazards of water and air pollution, a suggestion supported by the Representative of Jamaica. The Director mentioned the work being done at the Institute of Occupational Health in Santiago, Chile, which was engaged in studying the problem of air pollution.

Date of the 52nd Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Committee resolved to authorize the Chairman of the Executive Committee to fix the date of the 52nd Meeting in agreement with the Director of the Bureau.

Organization of the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO, XVII Meeting of the WHO Regional Committee for the Americas

The Director indicated that, except for unforeseen circumstances, the next meeting of the Directing Council could be held in the new Headquarters building of the Organization. In view of the significance of the event, there could be no better way of commemorating it than to devote the meeting to an analysis of the major problems afflicting the peoples of the Americas, and to organize the meeting at a very high level, possibly with the Ministers of Health of the Hemisphere attending.

The 52nd Meeting considered the following agenda items:

Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 1964

After a detailed study of the reports, the Committee resolved to transmit them to the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council. It also agreed to urge the Governments having outstanding quotas to pay them as soon as possible and those two or more years in arrears to adopt a financial plan for the payment of outstanding quotas within a definite period. The Committee

also commended the policy of prudent management followed by the Director over the years in maintaining budgetary expenditures within income, in building up the Working Capital Fund, and in creating reserves for termination costs.

Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1966

The Committee made a careful study, item by item, of the figures of the Proposed Program and Budget for 1966 presented by the Director. Several items were discussed in that connection, such as the distribution of the budget among the various countries, the Pan American Zoonoses Center, Medical Care and Hospital Administration, the number of posts and duty travel allocations, Chagas' Disease, Food and Drug service, chronic diseases, seminar on venereal diseases, teaching of medicine, and so forth.

Finally, the Committee agreed to submit to the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council the Proposed Program and Budget of PAHO for 1966 and to recommend to the Council that it establish the level of the budget for that year at \$8,080,000.

Financing of the Malaria Eradication Program in the Americas

In compliance with a resolution adopted by the Directing Council at its XV Meeting, the Director submitted to the Committee a report on the future financing of the malaria eradication program. After a detailed examination of that report, the Committee resolved to take note of it and to transmit it to the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council together with such additional information as may be available on the matter.

Report on the Collection of Quota Contributions

After making a detailed examination of the Report on the Collection of Quota Contributions presented by the Director, the Committee took note of the report and commended the Director for his efforts to obtain settlement of the outstanding arrears; it expressed its concern, nevertheless, over the continuing serious quota situation, especially the arrears of more than two years' standing; it recommended that the Director instruct the PAHO Zone Chiefs and PAHO Representatives in the respective countries to maintain continuous efforts to ensure that quotas were paid in the corresponding year and to have arrears paid as soon as possible. The Committee further requested the Director to continue his efforts to keep the Governments amply informed of the status of quota payments and of the implications of non-payment on the prosecution of the program of the Organization, and it also urged the Governments whose arrears would bring them within the loss-of-vote provision of Article 6B of the Constitution, to pay them as soon as possible, in order to ensure the full participation of all the Governments, which is so vital to the work of the Organization.

Non-Governmental Financial Support for Health Activities

The Committee examined the report on the non-governmental financial contributions for health activities, which mentioned the establishment of the World Health Foundation of the United States of America and the plan for the establishment of similar national foundations in other countries. The Committee also learned of the Agreement concluded between the World Health Organization and PAHO and signed on 15 October 1964 in Washington, D. C. by the Director-General of WHO and the Director of PASB, regarding the manner in which relations would be conducted with the World Health Foundation of the United States.

The Committee further recommended to the Directing Council that it take note of the Agreement, and that it invite the Director of the Bureau to continue to cooperate in the plan with regard to world health foundations, and to take such steps as he deemed necessary to further the fundamental purposes set forth in the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization.

Administrative rationalization in the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

The Committee took note of the report of the Director on administrative rationalization in the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and commended the Director and the staff of PASB for their efforts to date in effecting economies in administration. It also requested the Director to continue the program of rationalization and to report progress to the 54th Meeting of the Executive Committee, and to transmit Resolution VI and the report of the Director to the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council.

Amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

The Committee confirmed the amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau presented by the Director, which were similar to those adopted by the WHO with small adjustments and changes of an editorial nature in Articles 210.1, 430.2, 640.4, 870, 1110.4 and 1110.6, and a basic change in Article 730.3, on "pensionable remuneration" of staff members, which would hence forward be based on the gross salary level, including cost of living adjustment.

Organization of the Pan American Sanitary Conference and Constitutional Amendments

The Committee examined the report of the Director on the organization and structure of the Pan American Sanitary Conference, the proposed constitutional amendments submitted by various Governments in that regard, and the meeting place of the next Conference.

The Directing Council, in Resolution XXXIX of its XV Meeting held in Mexico, D. F. in September 1964, had instructed the Executive Committee to submit a report to the XVI Meeting of the Council on the organization, structure and place of the meetings of the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization.

The Committee examined this matter in depth, bearing in mind the antecedents and the documentation presented. At the conclusion of deliberations, it established a working party composed of the Representative of Panama, Dr. Alberto E. Calvo, and the Representative of Venezuela, Dr. Daniel Orellana to draw up a draft report on the opinions expressed during the discussions which would then be submitted to the Council. This project was examined and modified by the Committee in plenary session, and the definitive version was included as an Addendum in the Final Report of the Meeting. Among other recommendations, the Committee decided to submit to the consideration of the Council the proposed amendments to Articles 7D and 12B, formulated by the Representative of Ecuador at the last meeting of the Council, to the effect that the Organization should pay the travel expenses of one Representative of each Government to the meetings of the Conference and the Directing Council. The Committee proposed to the Directing Council that the Council request the Director to report on the practice of other organizations in the inter-American system and the UN regarding payment of travel or expenses; and attendance records of members where travel is paid by the Organization or by the member states. The Representative from Peru at the XV Meeting of the Council proposed that: "The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the direct surveillance of the work of the organization, fiscalizing the execution of its finances, and shall submit to the Directing Council or the Conference for its approval a detailed report thereon. The report shall be one of the main items of business of these bodies." The Committee decided to inform the Council that the Executive Committee had decided unanimously, with the concurrence of the Observer of Peru, that the functions assigned to the Committee by Article 14 of the Constitution, especially in parts D and E, were broad enough to preclude the need for the constitutional amendment proposed at the XV Meeting of the Council by the Representative of Peru. Further, the Committee unanimously accepted the proposal of the above-mentioned Observer of Peru that the Executive Committee should be officially represented at the meetings of the Directing Council and of the Conference by its Chairman or by any other member appointed by the Committee, and that the Organization should pay the travel and living expenses of that Representative.

Moreover, the Committee decided to recommend to the Directing Council that the next Pan American Sanitary Conference should be held at the new Headquarters of the Bureau in Washington, D.C. and that Articles 7A, B and C of the Constitution be modified accordingly. It also proposed that the Council modify Rule I of its own Rules of Procedure to the effect that its meetings should be held at the Headquarters of the Bureau or at the place chosen by the Conference or the Council, and not alternately as was currently stipulated.

In the pertinent resolution, the Committee approved the report of the Working Party as amended in plenary session, and decided to transmit it as its own to the Council, together with the report submitted by the Director, so that the Council might adopt such measures as it deemed advisable.

Emergency Revolving Fund

The Committee took note of the report of the Director on the status of the Emergency Revolving Fund, and instructed him to include the subject as a specific agenda item for meetings of the Governing Bodies only when the status of the Fund was such as to require consideration separately from the Financial Report.

Report on Buildings and Installations for Headquarters

The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Chairman and the members of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations for their valuable assistance in the prosecution of all activities related to the construction of the new Headquarters building and, particularly, on the sale of the buildings at 1501-1515 New Hampshire Avenue, N. W. It also instructed the Director to inform the Governments concerning contributions to the Headquarters building by the donation of works of art.

In another resolution on the same item, the Committee authorized the Director to advance funds from internal reserves or to borrow from external sources, as necessary, in an amount not to exceed \$900,000, for the purpose of financing construction and installation of the new Headquarters building until receipt of the full proceeds from the sale of the buildings located at 1501 and 1515 New Hampshire Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Third Annual Meetings of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council

The Committee noted with satisfaction and interest the report of the Director on the Third Annual Meetings of the IA-ECOSOC at the Expert and Ministerial Level, held in Lima, Peru, from 30 November to 11 December 1964. It decided to transmit the above-mentioned report to the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council, to invite the latter to express its satisfaction with the interest shown by these Meetings in health in the Americas and especially the resolutions approved at the expert level on foot-and-mouth disease, rural and urban water supply, health investments, and requests for international loans for land settlement, road building, urbanization, and other programs.

It also agreed to recommend to the Directing Council that it instruct the Director of the Bureau to continue to develop and strengthen relations between the Organization, IA-ECOSOC, and CIAP in order to bring about the integration of health activities in economic and social development programs; and to recommend to the Directing Council that it urge the Governments of the Organization to include representatives of Ministries of Health in their

delegations to the Annual Meetings of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, and that they also endeavor to have included in the agenda of those meetings specific items concerning the participation of the health sector in the dynamic process of development of the countries of the Americas.

Arrangements for the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO, XVII Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

The Committee approved, with a slight change, the provisional agenda prepared by the Director for the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council, and authorized him to include in the provisional agenda such additional items as might be proposed in due time by the Governments and by those organizations entitled to propose agenda items.

The Committee also took note of the Report of the Director concerning the arrangements for the aforesaid Meeting, and authorized him to convoke it from 27 September to 8 October 1965.

Establishment of Official Relations with the Pan American Federation of Associations of Medical Schools

In view of the request made by the aforementioned Federation, the Committee decided to recommend to the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council that the Pan American Health Organization establish official relations with the Pan American Federation of Associations of Medical Schools as a non-governmental organization representing medical schools in the Americas and, at the same time, that it authorize the Director to develop with the Federation, to the extent financial and budgetary limitations allowed, cooperative activities of mutual interest aimed at strengthening medical education programs in the Americas.

Planning of Hospitals and Health Facilities

The Committee studied a report on the item, submitted pursuant to Resolution XXV of the XV Directing Council and, in taking note of the report, emphasized the need for the plan of operations outlined in it to be supplemented by the work of an advisory committee that would be appointed to make a study of the medical care problem in the Continent covering all the sub-sectors providing medical care services. It also emphasized the importance of having senior officials responsible for the medical care benefits of social security services take part in the discussion of the problem at the next meeting of the Directing Council and instructed the Director to suggest to the Governments when convening the above-mentioned meeting of the Council that they include such officials in their delegations.

It also recommended to the Directing Council that it support the proposed plans and induce the Governments to do so; and invited the Director to submit a report to the 54th Meeting of the Executive Committee and the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference on the progress made in the planning of medical care services that have been incorporated into the general health services or have been coordinated with them.

Procedure for the Presentation of Reports to the Directing Council

The Committee carefully considered the report of the Director on the main administrative documents that are presented to the Directing Council. It decided to transmit the above-mentioned report to the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council and recommended to the Director that he continue the process initiated in recent years of providing the Governing Bodies with the kind of documentation that would facilitate the evaluation of program development.

International Transportation of Human Remains

Finally, the Committee examined a document on the international transportation of human remains, which contained information on the legislation currently in force in countries and political entities of the Americas. The Committee took note of the report, requested the Director to entrust to an advisory group the continuing study of the matter, including the advisability of the preparation of a set of general standards for the Americas concerning the international transportation of human remains, and also requested the Director to transmit the document submitted to the Committee, together with the report of the advisory group, to the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council.

In concluding this report, in which I have tried to set forth objectively and concisely the most important decisions taken at both meetings, I should like to thank the Members of the Executive Committee for the confidence they placed in me by electing me Chairman and the assistance I received in the course of the meetings from the Vice-Chairman and from all the members of the Committee. I should also like to thank the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the staff of the Bureau for their efficient work in organizing and conducting the meetings.