



*directing council*

PAN AMERICAN  
SANITARY  
ORGANIZATION  
VI MEETING

*regional committee*

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION  
IV MEETING



*Havana, Cuba  
15-24 September 1952*

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Topic 16: REPORT OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF THE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE  
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY ORGANIZATION (Document CD6/19)

Letter of the Director General of the  
World Health Organization

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Palais des Nations, Geneva

10 September 1952

Dear Doctor Soper,

I acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of your letter of 12 August 1952, with which was enclosed the proposed PASO Constitution on which the World Health Organization is requested to comment or to submit observations.

The points to which you should draw the attention of the Permanent Committee on Revision of the Constitution of the PASO refer to the following matters:

1. Suppression of the Directing Council

It is noted that Article 4 of the revised Constitution provides for the elimination of the Directing Council as an organ of the PASO. On the other hand, the agreement between the World Health Organization and the PASO approved by the Second World Health Assembly and by the Pan American Sanitary Conference provides that the Pan American Sanitary Conference, through the Directing Council of the PASO, will serve as the Regional Committee for the Western Hemisphere. If Article 4 should be adopted in the proposed form, the relevant provision of the WHO/PASO agreement will need to be revised accordingly.

2. Relations

The provisions of paragraph (a) of Article 44 appear to us to require a drafting change. This paragraph refers to relations between the PASO and WHO and between the PASO and the OAS, and provides that these relations shall be governed by agreements which will be concluded in accordance with the Constitution of WHO and the Charter of OAS. It is presumed that the reference to the Charter of OAS concerns only the relations between the PASO and the OAS and not the relations between the PASO and WHO, although the contrary might be inferred from the drafting. Possibly the words "as the case may be" or "as appropriate" could be added at the end of the paragraph to make it more specific.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Brock Chisholm, M.D.  
Director-General

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