



directing council

PAN AMERICAN
SANITARY
ORGANIZATION

VII Meeting

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

V Meeting



Washington, D. C.
9-22 October 1953

CD7/25 (Eng.)
6 October 1953
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Topic 28: SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS
DURING THE XIV PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,
VI MEETING OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Background

The Constitution of the Pan American Sanitary Organization (1947) provides, among the functions of the Conference, that it "shall serve as a forum" for the exchange of information and ideas relating to the prevention of disease and the preservation of health.

The Directing Council at its III Meeting, held in Lima (1949), recommended to the Member States that they present, at each Pan American Sanitary Conference, a written report, preferably of a statistical nature, on the work accomplished between Conferences. Pursuant to this provision, the delegates of the American Republics read, at the Pan American Sanitary Conference in 1950, general reports on the state of public health in their respective nations.

Discussion

The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau believes that the function of the Pan American Sanitary Conferences of serving as a forum for the public health specialists of America, by holding technical discussions on topics of a regional nature, could be most satisfactorily fulfilled, and the presentation of reports once in four years could be most useful, if these reports have:

1. Similarity of form.
2. Simplified and direct statistical presentation.
3. Early printing and distribution, which would require that they be sent to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau sufficiently in advance of the Conference.
4. Summary presentation, not longer than 20 minutes, at a seminar-type meeting permitting full discussion.

The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, taking the foregoing into consideration, wishes to submit to the Directing Council for study the following

Proposed Resolution

THE DIRECTING COUNCIL

RESOLVES:

To authorize the Executive Committee to appoint, at its 21st Meeting, a special committee, composed of members of the Committee, charged with studying the four-year reports of the Governments, which are requested by April 1954;

That the Executive Committee should decide upon the procedure to be followed in the seminar-type discussions of the four-year reports; approve the dates on which the technical discussions will take place during the meeting of the XIV Conference; and set the time to be devoted to the latter discussions and the method to be followed.

The Director believes that a full and systematic discussion, on a purely technical plane, of the reports submitted to the Pan American Sanitary Conference can be extremely useful in formulating national and international health programs in the Americas, and that the joint opinions expressed in the Pan American Sanitary forum, once they are known, can provide both the Governments and intergovernmental organizations with orientation for their future activities.