

*directing council*

PAN AMERICAN  
SANITARY  
ORGANIZATION



*regional committee*

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



VIII Meeting

Washington, D. C.  
September 1955

VII Meeting

CD8/85 (Eng.)  
19 September 1955  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

RULES FOR TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS  
AT DIRECTING COUNCIL MEETINGS

(Approved at the Thirteenth Plenary Session,  
Held 17 September 1955)

PART I

Selection of the Topic for Technical Discussions

- Art. 1 The Pan American Sanitary Conference, or the Directing Council, as the case may be, shall select the topic for the technical discussions to be held during the ensuing meeting of the Council. The Pan American Sanitary Conference or the Directing Council may delegate the selection of this topic to the Executive Committee.
- Art. 2 The purpose of the technical discussions shall be to deal with matters of regional interest related to the activities of the Pan American Sanitary Organization and the National Public Health Administrations, the study of which may produce immediate and practical results.
- Art. 3 The technical discussions shall be limited to one topic.
- Art. 4 The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall, at the earliest possible date, inform the Members, Territories, and Organizations entitled to representation, of the topic selected for the technical discussions.

PART II

Designation and Duties of the Expert

- Art. 5 The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall designate an expert to present an introductory statement on the topic selected for the technical discussions.
- Art. 6 The Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall place at the disposal of the designated expert such background material as he considers useful in the preparation of his statement.
- Art. 7 The expert shall receive adequate remuneration for his work, in addition to payment of expenses for a round trip from his place of residence to the seat of the Directing Council meeting in the event he resides elsewhere than at the seat of the meeting.
- Art. 8 The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall transmit to the Members, Territories, and Organizations entitled to representation a copy of the introductory statement prepared by the expert, at least thirty days before the scheduled opening date of the Directing Council meeting at which the technical discussions are to be held.
- Art. 9 The expert shall submit the introductory statement on the technical discussions to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau in sufficient time to permit it to be translated into Spanish or English, or both, and to be reproduced and distributed to the Members, Territories, and Organizations entitled to representation, within the time limit set in the preceding article.
- Art. 10 The Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall not be held responsible for the opinions and ideas expressed in the introductory statement.

- Art. 18 Representatives of the international organizations, intergovernmental and nongovernmental, maintaining official relations with the World Health Organization or with the Pan American Sanitary Organization, may participate in the technical discussions, with the prior consent of the Moderator.
- Art. 19 In view of the character of the technical discussions, the statements and opinions expressed therein shall be considered purely personal.

#### PART V

##### Discussions and Reports

- Art. 20 The technical discussions shall open with a statement by the expert designated by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, in which he will give a brief summary of the introductory paper prepared for the discussions.
- Art. 21 While the technical discussions are being held, no other activity of the Directing Council shall take place.
- Art. 22 No minutes of the sessions shall be kept; the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the Technical Secretary, shall prepare a summary of the discussions.
- Art. 23 The Rapporteur shall present his report at a special session of the Directing Council, which shall be held in advance of the closing session of the Directing Council.
- Art. 24 The report of the Rapporteur shall contain the opinions expressed in the course of the technical discussions and any conclusions reached.
- Art. 25 The Directing Council normally will take note of the report of the Rapporteur unless, by a two-thirds vote, it decides otherwise.

### PART III

#### Installation of the Technical Discussions

- Art. 11 The Chairman of the Directing Council, upon completion of the discussion of the Council agenda, shall set the time for the opening of the technical discussions, and shall convene the first special session.
- Art. 12 A Moderator and a Rapporteur for the technical discussions shall be elected by majority vote of the participants present and voting who are members of the delegations represented on the Directing Council.
- Art. 13 The Moderator so elected shall immediately take the Chair, and shall organize the work of the technical discussions in seminar form.
- Art. 14 The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall appoint a Technical Secretary to assist the Moderator and the Rapporteur during the technical discussions.

### PART IV

#### Nature of, and Participation in, the Technical Discussions

- Art. 15 The technical discussions form part of the business of the Directing Council proper, but the conclusions reached during the discussions shall not be of an official character unless the Directing Council so expressly resolves.
- Art. 16 The documents pertaining to the technical discussions shall be issued by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau separately from the documents of the Directing Council.
- Art. 17 All members may participate in the technical discussions, whether they be delegates, alternates, or advisers of the delegations represented on the Directing Council at whose meeting the technical discussions are held.