



directing council

PAN AMERICAN
SANITARY
ORGANIZATION

X Meeting

Washington, D. C.
September 1957

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

IX Meeting



CD10/26 (Eng.)
3 September 1957
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Topic 31: ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE XV PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,
X MEETING OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHO (1958)

The Director has the honor to inform the Directing Council of the arrangements being made for the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference and related meetings of the Executive Committee to be held in 1958 in the city of San Juan, capital of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

1. Preparatory Arrangements

In accordance with Article 7-A of the Constitution of the Organization, which provides that the date of the Conference shall be fixed by the Host Government after consultation with the Director of the Bureau, the following dates for the meetings in San Juan in 1958 were proposed by the Director in a communication of 3 April 1957:

35th Meeting of the Executive Committee:	16-19 September 1958
XV Pan American Sanitary Conference:	21 September-6 October 1958
36th Meeting of the Executive Committee:	6 October 1958

In the same communication the Director referred to Article 7-B of the Constitution of the Organization, which provides that "at least one year in advance of the date of the quadrennial meeting of the Conference, the Government of the country in which the Conference is to meet shall appoint a committee to cooperate with the Pan American Sanitary Bureau in organizing the meeting." He also referred to the agreement that is to be concluded between the Host Government and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau on their respective obligations in the organization of those meetings, on the basis of the model agreement which the Executive Committee approved at its 26th Meeting (Res. III) and of which the Directing Council took note at its VIII Meeting (Res. VI). A draft of the agreement has been prepared on the basis of this model and is now under consideration by the Host Government.

The Secretary of State of the United States, in a communication of 28 August 1957, informed the Director that the dates proposed for the Conference and related meetings of the Executive Committee were acceptable to the United States Government and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and that the committee designated to cooperate in the organization of the meetings will consist of the following persons:

Chairman:

The Honorable Francis O. Wilcox
Assistant Secretary of State for
International Organization Affairs

Executive Chairman:

Dr. Guillermo Arbona
Secretary of Health
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

Secretary:

The Honorable Arturo Morales Carrión
Under Secretary of State
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

Members:

Mr. Harold G. Kissick, Director
Office of International Conferences
Department of State

Mr. William L. Krieg, Deputy Director
Office of Inter-American Regional
Political Affairs
Department of State

Dr. Arthur S. Osborne
International Health Representative
Division of International Health
Public Health Service
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Mr. Adolfo Porrata
Department of State
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

Early in August 1957, the Assistant Director of the Bureau and the Chief of Conferences Services had an opportunity to meet in San Juan with the Executive Chairman and the Secretary of the Organizing Committee, to exchange views on the preparations for these meetings and discuss the preliminary general arrangements with respect to premises, equipment, services, installations, and secretariat staff.

The Director wishes to acknowledge the generous cooperation that the authorities of the United States Government and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico are continuing to provide in the arrangements for these meetings.

Method of Work of the Conference. The XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference (Santiago, Chile, 1954) was organized on the basis of plenary sessions and the establishment of two main committees: Committee I, entrusted with the study of technical subjects on the Conference agenda, including the topics selected for the technical discussions; and Committee II, charged with the study of administrative, financial, and legal matters. Working parties were established by both committees for the detailed study of specific topics.

For the efficient organization of the secretariat services of the XV Conference, it is necessary to know sufficiently in advance the structure and method of work of the meeting, so that arrangements can be made for supplying the required services and facilities. Such arrangements relate to the number of meeting rooms necessary for the plenary, committee, and working party sessions, the type and amount of simultaneous interpretation equipment, the required staff of interpreters, précis writers, translators, and other temporary personnel to be recruited in advance of the meeting.

For this purpose, the Director proposes that the method of work which gave such satisfactory results in Chile be adopted as the basis for the secretariat services to be organized by the Bureau in cooperation with the Organizing Committee; that is, the establishment of two main committees and such working parties as may be required.

After considering the foregoing, the Directing Council may wish to adopt a resolution along the following lines:

Proposed Resolution

The Directing Council,

Having studied the report of the Director on the preparatory arrangements for the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference (Document CD10/26, Part 1),

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the arrangements being made for the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference and related meetings of the Executive Committee to be held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in 1958, and of the dates set for these meetings in agreement with the Host Government.

2. To take note of the establishment of the Organizing Committee for the Conference and to express its appreciation to the United States Government and to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for the assistance that has been given in the arrangements for these meetings.

3. To authorize the Director to proceed with the arrangements for organizing the secretariat of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference on the basis of dividing the work of the meeting into plenary sessions, sessions of two main committees, and sessions of such working parties as may be established.

2. Technical Discussions

Pursuant to Article 4-D of the Constitution of the Pan American Sanitary Organization, the Conference serves "as a forum for the interchange of information and ideas relating to the prevention of disease, the promotion, preservation and restoration of mental and physical health, and the advancement of socio-medical measures and facilities for the prevention and treatment of physical and mental diseases in the Western Hemisphere."

In accordance with this provision, the study and discussion of technical subjects of regional interest related to the activities of PASO and of the national health authorities form an integral part of the agenda of the Pan American Sanitary Conferences. At the XIV Conference the topics studied by Committee I (Technical Matters) and its working parties included, among others, those related to control of infant diarrheas, application of health education methods in rural Latin America, and improvement of vital and health statistics. These were the topics chosen by the 22nd Meeting of the Executive Committee (April 1954), which had been authorized by the VII Meeting of the Directing Council (October 1953) to make the selection on the basis of the data contained in the four-year reports of the Member States on public health conditions and progress achieved during the period between the XIII and XIV Conferences. The Council, in Resolution XXIII, expressed the opinion that "a detailed, methodical, and exclusively technical discussion of the reports submitted to the Pan American Sanitary Conference could prove extremely helpful in formulating national and international health programs in the Americas," and it authorized the Executive Committee to establish the procedure to be followed for the seminar-type discussions. Accordingly, the 22nd Meeting

of the Executive Committee (Resolution X), after making the selection of topics on the basis of the four-year reports and authorizing the Director to designate experts to prepare an introductory statement on each topic, drew up proposed rules of procedure for the working parties of Committee I (Technical Matters) of the XIV Conference. These rules (see Annex I) served as the basis for organizing the technical discussions at that Conference.

The Director proposes that these same procedures be maintained for the selection of topics and the organization of the technical discussions at the XV Conference.

The statistical reports to be presented by each of the Member States on public health conditions and progress achieved during the period 1953-1956 will be the object of detailed study by the Bureau, so that an analytical summary covering all the Americas may be prepared for presentation to the XV Conference. This summary, to be prepared during the early part of 1958, could serve as guide to the Executive Committee, at its 34th Meeting in the spring of that year, for the selection of topics for the technical discussions at the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference.

If the Directing Council is in accord with the above-described procedures for the organization of the technical discussions at the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference and for the selection of topics for those discussions, it may wish to consider a resolution along the following lines:

Proposed Resolution

The Directing Council,

Bearing in mind that technical discussions are an integral part of the agenda of the Pan American Sanitary Conference by virtue of Article 4-D of the Constitution of the Organization, which provides that the Conference shall serve "as a forum for the interchange of information and ideas relating to the prevention of disease, the promotion, preservation and restoration of mental and physical health, and the advancement of socio-medical measures and facilities for the prevention and treatment of physical and mental diseases in the Western Hemisphere";

Considering that Committee I (Technical Matters) of the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference was concerned principally with these technical discussions, in accordance with the procedures established;

Reiterating that a detailed, methodical, and exclusively technical discussion of the data contained in the reports of the Member Governments on health conditions and progress achieved during the period between the XIV and the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference could prove extremely helpful in formulating national and international health programs in the Americas; and

Considering that an analytical summary of the four-year statistical reports of the Member Governments is to be prepared by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau so as to reflect the over-all health situation in the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To authorize the Executive Committee, at its 34th Meeting, to select the topics for the technical discussions to be held at the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference, on the basis of the data contained in the analytical summary of the four-year statistical reports of the Member Governments covering the period 1953-1956.
2. To authorize the Executive Committee to draw up, for transmittal to the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference, a set of procedures for the conduct of these discussions, using as a basis the procedures followed at the XIV Conference.
3. Inter-American Congress of Public Health

The Director takes this opportunity to call the attention of the Directing Council to Resolution XXXVI adopted by the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference on the subject of Inter-American Congresses of Public Health, the text of which is as follows:

"The XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference,

Having noted the proposal of the Delegation of Cuba that 'at the time the Pan American Conference of Public Health takes place the Inter-American Congress of Public Health will hold an official meeting, which will be organized by the Pan American Office of Public Health,'

RESOLVES:

To postpone consideration of the proposal presented by the Delegation of Cuba until the X Meeting of the Directing Council, scheduled for 1957."

The proposal of the Delegation of Cuba "to establish a scientific forum to be held regularly under the name 'Inter-American Congress of Public Health', as a continuation of the Congress of that name first held in Havana in October 1952" was presented to the XIV Conference at its ninth plenary session. ^{1/} In the above resolution the Conference postponed consideration of the proposal until the present meeting of the Council, which is to consider the preparations for the XV Conference.

^{1/} Official Document No. 14, pp. 279-281

In this connection, it should be pointed out that, in accordance with the Article 4-D of the Constitution, the Conference itself constitutes a forum for the study of technical subjects related to all phases of public health work in the Americas. The procedure has been established for organizing these studies in the form of technical discussions as an integral part of the agenda of the Conference. In addition to these broad studies at four-year intervals, technical discussions on topics of continent-wide interest have also been organized since 1952 at each yearly meeting of the Directing Council which has expressly recognized the importance of these discussions and has now made them part of the official business of its meetings. The technical discussions by the specialized representatives of the public health services of all Member Governments have thus continued to serve as a basis for the improvement and development of both international and national health activities in the Americas.

Mention should also be made of the progressive development in recent years of the program of specialized seminars, workshops, and other meetings, which is approved annually by the governing bodies as part of the over-all operating program of PASO. This continuing program of international meetings and seminars has afforded exceptional opportunities for health workers from all the countries to exchange experience and ideas and undertake specialized studies on technical and scientific aspects of public health work, and also to stimulate the application of such knowledge in the organization and administration of health programs. With the development of PASO's activities over recent years, such international meetings have covered practically every major phase of public health work.

It is believed that the development of this type of continuing activity, as well as the periodic organization of technical discussions at both the Directing Council meetings and the Conference, have obviated the need for an additional scientific forum to be conducted in the form of an Inter-American Public Health Congress at the time of the XV Pan American Sanitary Conference.



*executive committee of
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN
SANITARY
ORGANIZATION

*working party of
the regional committee*

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



22nd Meeting
Washington, D. C.
April, 1954

CE22/8 (Eng.)
ADDENDUM I
21 April 1954
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Topic 13: TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS AT THE XIV PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

Rules of Procedure for the Working Parties
of Committee I (Technical Matters)

1. The Chairman of Committee I, in conformity with the decisions of the General Committee, will install the working parties.
2. Each working party will elect a Moderator at its first session.
3. Each working party will also elect a Rapporteur, who will be assisted by a Technical Secretary designated by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.
4. The discussions will open with the presentation of an introductory statement by the expert designated for that purpose.
5. Each working party will hold not more than five sessions in accordance with the program of the Conference.
6. The Rapporteur of each working party will prepare a report on the discussions for approval by the working party.
7. The report approved by each working party will be submitted to Committee I for consideration.
8. The Rapporteur of Committee I will prepare a report containing the declarations, recommendations, or resolutions adopted by the Committee as a result of the discussion of the reports of the working parties.
9. The report of Committee I will be submitted to the General Committee for coordination and any editing deemed necessary.
10. With such modifications as the General Committee may introduce, the report of Committee I will be submitted to a plenary session of the Conference for approval.

11. The Final Act of the Conference will contain only such portions of the Committee report as are in the form of recommendations or resolutions and as have been specifically approved in plenary session.
12. The reports of the working parties and the report of Committee I will be included in the Proceedings (Memoria) of the Conference.