

directing council



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XII Meeting

Havana, Cuba
August 1960

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



XII Meeting

CD12/22 (Eng.)
CORRIGENDUM I
24 August 1960
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Topic 7: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

C O R R I G E N D U M
(English text only)

The following correction should be made in the English text of
Document CD12/22:

Page
Page 4, last five lines

To read as follows:

At the 41st Meeting, the Director reported that on 30 June 1960 the Senate of the United States of America had approved an appropriation of \$875,000

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Havana, Cuba
August 1960

CD12/22 (Eng.)
17 August 1960
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Topic 7: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Presented by Dr. Bichat Rodrigues (Brazil), Chairman of the 39th, 40th, and 41st. Meetings of the Executive Committee.

In accordance with Article 8-C of the Constitution, I have the honor to report to the Directing Council on the activities of the Executive Committee during the period September 1959 to August 1960, during which the Committee held its 38th, 39th, 40th, and 41st Meetings.

The 38th Meeting was held on 23 September 1959 at Washington, D.C., under the Chairmanship of Dr. Miguel E. Bustamante, Representative of Mexico, and the Vice-Chairmanship of Dr. Darío Curiel, Representative of Venezuela. The following representatives also were present: Dr. Bichat Rodrigues (Brazil); Mr. Humberto Olivero, Jr., Dr. Emilio René Novales, and Dr. Carlos Padilla y Padilla (Guatemala); Dr. Carlos A. Javier and Dr. Jorge E. Zepeda (Honduras); and Dr. Horace DeLien, Mr. Charles G. Sommer, and Mr. Laurence Wyatt (United States of America). The Representative of Peru was absent. The following attended as observers: Dr. Mario Allaria (Argentina), Dr. Raymond G. Hyronimus (France), Dr. Carlo Boulos (Haiti), and Dr. Gerald V. A. Griffith and Dr. Charles C. Nicholson (United Kingdom).

At the 39th Meeting, held in Washington, D.C., after the closing of the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, the following representatives, whose countries were elected to the Executive Committee at that Council meeting, were seated: Dr. José A. Jácome Valderrama (Colombia), and Dr. Alberto Aguilar Rivas (El Salvador). The following representatives were also present: Dr. Bichat Rodrigues (Brazil); Dr. Horace DeLien, Dr. Arthur Clayton Curtis, and Mr. Laurence Wyatt (United States of America). The following were present as observers: Mr. Humberto Olivero (Guatemala); Dr. Nicolaas H. Swellengrebel, Dr. J. S. de Windt, and Dr. Max D.L. Essed (Kingdom of the Netherlands); Dr. Charles C. Nicholson and Dr. Gerald V.A. Griffith (United Kingdom).

At the 39th Meeting, Dr. Bichat Rodrigues, Representative of the Government of Brazil, and Dr. José A. Jácome Valderrama, Representative

of the Government of Colombia, were respectively elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee. I therefore had the honor to preside over the 39th, 40th, and 41st Meetings of the Committee.

At the 40th Meeting, held in Washington, D. C., from 25 to 29 April 1960, the following representatives were present: Dr. Bichat Rodrigues (Brazil), Chairman; Dr. Luis Patiño-Camargo (Colombia), Vice-Chairman; Dr. Alberto Aguilar Rivas (El Salvador); Dr. Carlos A. Javier and Dr. Arturo Zelaya (Honduras); Dr. Miguel E. Bustamante (Mexico); Dr. Arthur S. Osborne, Dr. Arthur Clayton Curtis, Mr. Charles W. Thomas, and Mr. Laurence R. Wyatt (United States of America); and Dr. Daniel Orellana (Venezuela). The following attended as observers: Dr. Raúl Vera Lamperein (Chile); Dr. Rafael O. Pedraza Rodriguez and Dr. Oscar Mateo de Acosta Fernández (Cuba); Mr. Jean Le Cannelier (France); Dr. Guillermo Sáenz de Tejada (Guatemala); Mr. Frans Joseph van Agt (Kingdom of the Netherlands); and Mr. O. H. Salzman, Jr., and Mrs. Bernice Randall (Organization of American States).

The 41st Meeting was held in Havana, Cuba, on 12 August 1960, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Luis Patiño-Camargo (Colombia), Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee, who presided in the absence of the Chairman of the Committee. The following Representatives also were present: Dr. Francisco Monterrosa Gavidia (El Salvador); Dr. Arturo Zelaya (Honduras); Dr. Mercedes Cabrera (Mexico); Dr. H. van Zile Hyde, Dr. E. Ross Jenney, and Mr. Charles W. Thomas (United States of America); and Dr. Lisandro Lattuf and Dr. M. V. Parra Petit (Venezuela). Present as observers were: Dr. Rafael O. Pedraza and Dr. Ramón Martínez (Cuba); Dr. Julio Alvarez and Dr. Gerardo Rodríguez (Ecuador); and Dr. Horace P. S. Gillette (United Kingdom).

According to Article 6 of the Rules of Procedure, the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is Secretary ex officio of the Executive Committee. Consequently, Dr. Abraham Horwitz was Secretary of the Meeting.

At the four meetings that are the subject of this report, studies were made of matters of the utmost importance to the Organization, in addition to the study of the proposed budget, the principal function of this Committee. Among the matters examined were those relating to the construction of the new headquarters building, the proposed registry of malaria-eradicated areas, the decentralization of the Organization's activities, and the secondment of national public health workers.

The main topics examined by the Committee were the following:

Amendments to Articles 10 and 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee

At its 38th Meeting, the Committee studied the suggestion of the Representative of the United States, made at the previous meeting, to the

effect that the time limit for transmittal by the Director of the agenda documentation covering the Committee meetings be increased from 14 to 30 days.

The Committee agreed to amend Articles 10-c and 11 of the Rules of Procedure, increasing to 30 and 21 days respectively the time limits established in those articles. In the case of the latter, the Committee also agreed to authorize the Director to waive the time limitation should such a waiver be justified by special considerations.

Decentralization of Activities of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to the Zone Offices

At its 38th Meeting, the Executive Committee made a detailed study of the report presented by the Director, in compliance with Resolution XVII adopted at its 37th Meeting at the proposal of the Representative of Mexico. The aforesaid report stated that the advisability of continuing decentralization was being studied, and, that it was to be expected that the studies underway would result in additional savings and a more effective rationalization of work method in both administrative and technical activities.

The Committee requested the Director to keep it informed of the results of the several studies being undertaken, and offer recommendations as to the course of action to be followed with respect to decentralization, in order to achieve the most effective and economical operation for the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

At its 40th Meeting, the Committee again examined this topic during the discussion of the 1961 proposed program and budget of the Organization and, particularly, the present distribution of the zones and the personnel assigned to them. It then resolved to request the Director to prepare a study on the financial and technical aspects of the present system of decentralization and to submit it to the Executive Committee at its next meeting for consideration and appropriate action.

Pursuant to this resolution (XIII), passed at the 40th Meeting of the Executive Committee, the Director presented a report on the financial and technical aspects of the present system of decentralization. After examining it, the Executive Committee agreed to take note of this report and to request that the Director continue his study of decentralization activities, in order that he might present the most complete report possible to the 43rd Meeting of the Executive Committee for its consideration.

Amendments to the Financial Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

At its 38th Meeting, the Committee studied the problems raised by the present text of the Financial Regulations and agreed to recommend that the Directing Council approve the following changes in the text of these regulations: 1. Change the title from "Financial Regulations of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau" to "Financial Regulations of the Pan American Health Organization"; 2. Amend Article 1 to read as follows:

"1.1 - These regulations shall govern the financial administration of the Pan American Health Organization. 1.2 - The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall receive, deposit, and administer all funds and assets of the Pan American Health Organization in accordance with these Financial Regulations;" 3. - Substitute the word "Organization" for "Bureau" in Articles 6.1, 7.2, 8.1, 10.1, 10.3, 10.5, 11.1, 11.2, 12.1, 12.2, and 12.8.

Buildings and Installations for Headquarters

The Executive Committee examined this topic at its 40th Meeting. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Congress of the United States had approved the legislative bill with respect to the donation of a site for the construction of the new headquarters building of the Pan American Health Organization, and expressed its deep appreciation to the Government of the United States for its generous action. It also agreed to recommend that the Directing Council authorize the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to accept title to the land to be donated by the Government of the United States, on behalf of the Pan American Health Organization.

The Committee then proceeded to study at length the measures to be taken for the construction of the building and resolved to authorize the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations to submit to the meeting of the Executive Committee to be held prior to the XII Meeting of the Directing Council, detailed proposals regarding methods of selecting architects, engineers, and contractors; estimated space requirements; facilities to be included in the building; estimated cost; and methods of financing, so that the proposals approved by the Executive Committee could be submitted to the Directing Council for consideration at its XII Meeting.

In order to accelerate as far as possible the action taken by the Subcommittee directed toward the construction of the building, the Executive Committee resolved to request the Directing Council to delegate to the Committee full powers to act on behalf of the Organization regarding the Construction of the headquarters building and, at the same time, to authorize the Committee to redelegate these powers to the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations.

The Executive Committee took note of the report of the Director on buildings and installations, and agreed to recommend to the Directing Council that any balance remaining from the settlement received from the fire insurance company as a result of the fire that occurred in the present headquarters building on 5 November 1959, be transferred to the Building Reserve Fund.

At the 41st Meeting, the Director reported that on 30 June 1960 the Senate of the United States of America had approved an appropriation of \$875,000 for the purchase of the site to be donated to the Pan American Health Organization for the construction of a new headquarters building, once the appropriation is approved also by the House of Representatives

for the purchase of the site to be donated to the Pan American Health Organization for the construction of a new headquarters building, once the appropriation is approved also by the House of Representatives and by the President of the United States. The Director also presented the report of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations, pursuant to Resolution I of the 40th Meeting of the Committee.

The Executive Committee made a detailed study of this report and agreed to reiterate its deep appreciation to the Government of the United States for the measures it had taken with respect to the donation of a site for the construction of the headquarters building of the Pan American Health Organization; to express its appreciation to the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations for the excellent work it is doing and to request that it continue lending its services to the Organization; to endorse the proposals of the Subcommittee relative to: (1) methods of selecting architects, engineers, and contractors; (2) estimated space requirements; (3) facilities to be included in the building; (4) estimated cost; and (5) methods of financing, as outlined in the Subcommittee's report. The Executive Committee also requested the Directing Council that it delegate full power to the Committee to act on behalf of the Pan American Health Organization with reference to the construction of the headquarters building, and, at the same time, authorize it to redelegate these powers to the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations, which will keep the Executive Committee continuously informed as to the progress of its activities.

Emergency Revolving Fund

At its 40th Meeting, the Committee took note of the report presented by the Director on the activities in connection with the Emergency Revolving Fund. At the time that report was presented, the Fund had an available balance amounting to \$36,174.

Progress Report of the Subcommittee on Basic Documents of the Pan American Health Organization

At its 40th Meeting, the Executive Committee, examined the status of the activities of the Subcommittee on Basic Documents of the Organization. The Subcommittee is making a detailed study of the text of each article of the Constitution and of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Directing Council, and of the Executive Committee, with a view to improving the clarity, coherence, and equivalence of meaning between the English and Spanish texts. A complete preliminary revised text had been distributed to each member of the Subcommittee which would be studied further by these members. In addition, the necessary measures would be taken for the translation of the Basic Documents into French and Portuguese.

The Committee took note of the progress report on these activities, thanked the Subcommittee for the interest it has shown in its work and for

the generous cooperation it is giving the Organization, and expressed its hope of receiving the preliminary revised text as soon as possible, in order that it might be submitted to the Member Governments for consideration before the Committee makes its recommendations to a future meeting of the Directing Council.

Amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and Report on Health Insurance for its Staff Members

The Executive Committee at its 40th Meeting confirmed the amendments to the Staff Rules as presented by the Director, designed to bring these rules in line with the practice of the World Health Organization and other specialized agencies of the United Nations and with the introduction of a new plan of health insurance for the staff of the Organization. The Committee also took note of the report of the Director on the implementation of the aforesaid insurance plan.

Register of Areas Where Malaria is Eradicated

At its 40th Meeting, the Executive Committee made a detailed study of the document presented by the Director in compliance with Resolution XXXII of the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, concerning the Register of Areas where Malaria is Eradicated.

The activities conducted by the Bureau in this regard have revealed the usefulness and possibility of establishing such a Register. The criteria established by the WHO Expert Committee, however, do not coincide in all respects with the conditions under which the eradication program has been and continues to be carried out in the Americas. Because there is not yet sufficient information to establish criteria applicable to the entire Continent, more time is required to consult with experts and to see that such criteria can be adjusted to the conditions existing in this Hemisphere.

The Committee took note of the report presented by the Director and recommended that he continue to study this matter in the light of the recommendations of the WHO Expert Committee and the experience acquired by the national malaria eradication services, as well as that gained through the work of the Evaluation Team. It further requested the Director to inform the Executive Committee on the progress of the study and to present concrete recommendations to the meeting of the Committee in the spring of 1961.

Arrangements for the XII Meeting of the Directing Council

The Committee, at its 39th Meeting, authorized the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to convoke the XII Meeting of the Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization, XII Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas, in Havana, Cuba in 1960, within dates to be set in agreement with the Government of Cuba.

At its 40th Meeting, the Committee approved the Preliminary Draft Agenda prepared by the Director for the XII Meeting of the Directing Council, and authorized him to include in the said preliminary draft the additional topics that may be proposed by the Member Governments and organizations entitled to propose topics.

The Committee took note of the report presented by the Director on the forthcoming meetings of the Organization's Governing Bodies which are to take place in Havana in August 1960 and expressed its appreciation to the Government of Cuba, and especially to Dr. Serafin Ruiz de Zárate, Minister of Public Health, and his co-workers, for the cooperation they have given in providing facilities and in making the preparations for these meetings, as well as for the measures they have taken to ensure their success. The Committee also agreed to approve the action taken and to recommend that the Director continue the preparations for these meetings in collaboration with the authorities of the Government of Cuba.

The 41st Meeting of the Executive Committee designated the Representative of Colombia, Dr. Luis Patiño-Camargo, as the person who would, in the name of the delegations attending the XII Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO, XII Meeting of the Regional Office of WHO, reply to the address to be given at the inaugural session of that meeting by the Minister of Public Health of the Republic of Cuba.

Secondment of Staff from Member States

The 40th meeting of the Executive Committee discussed at length the various aspects of the problem of secondment of personnel from the countries to the World Health Organization and their subsequent return to their own national service. This topic was studied pursuant to the request made by the Director-General, in compliance with a decision taken at the 23rd Session of the WHO Executive Board.

The Committee resolved to request the Director to keep it informed on future decisions taken in the matter, specifically with respect to the secondment of personnel from national public health services and other agencies to the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization.

Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 1959

These reports were considered at the 40th Meeting of the Committee, which took note thereof and agreed to transmit them to the XII Meeting of the Directing Council. It also resolved to urge the Member Governments whose quota contributions are in arrears to pay them at the earliest possible date; to request the Director to bring to the attention of the Member Governments the need for the prompt payment of their quotas, and to take whatever additional action he may deem advisable in this connection -

reporting to the XII Meeting of the Directing Council the results of his efforts.

Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1961

At its 40th Meeting, the Committee studied in detail, item by item, the proposed budget of the Organization for 1961, as presented by the Director. Among the aspects of the Organization's activities taken up were: decentralization; the WHO regular budget for the Region of the Americas, Technical Assistance Funds; the eradication of smallpox, of Aedes aegypti, and of the treponematoses; medical education; radiological health; environmental sanitation; administrative methods and procedures in public health; the Boletín de la Oficina Sanitaria Panamericana; the Working Capital Fund; the relation between salaries of international and locally recruited staff; mental health; chronic diseases; the El Paso Field Office; and intercountry projects. As a result of this study a report was drafted for submittal to the XII Meeting of the Directing Council (Document CD12/13), giving details of the study conducted by the Committee and expressing an opinion favorable to approval of the proposed program and budget presented, as that document was considered to constitute an adequate and satisfactory whole. Although it expressed concern relative to the possibility of future increases, the Committee recognized that the program and budget of PAHO cannot remain static in the face of the ever-increasing interest shown by the governments in solving public health problems.

Consequently, the Committee resolved to submit to the XII Meeting of the Directing Council the proposed program and budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1961, prepared by the Director, together with the report containing the observations and recommendations made by the Committee, and to recommend that the Directing Council establish the budget level for 1961 at \$4,800,000.

The Committee also resolved to recommend that the Director call to the attention of the Member Governments the reduction in funds of the United Nations Technical Assistance Program for public health activities which has taken place in the past few years, and invite them to give these activities the priority they merit when planning their national requests for Technical Assistance.

Invitation to the I Mexican Congress of Public Health

Dr. Bustamante (Mexico), on behalf of the Minister of Public Health and Welfare of Mexico, Dr. José Alvarez Amézquita, stated that he was honored to invite the members of the Executive Committee and the staff of the Bureau to participate in the I Mexican Congress of Public Health, which will take place from 4 to 9 December 1960.

All the members of the Committee expressed their appreciation to the Government of Mexico for its invitation and emphasized the importance of the public health work being carried out in Mexico.

Meetings of the Executive Committee

In accordance with the established practice of holding the spring meeting immediately before that of the World Health Assembly, the Executive Committee at its 39th Meeting resolved to hold the 40th Meeting from 25 to 29 April 1960. Since the World Health Assembly was to convene on 3 May 1960, this would provide sufficient travel time to representatives attending both meetings.

At its 40th Meeting, the Executive Committee, bearing in mind the need of carefully examining and studying a number of topics for submittal to the Directing Council for consideration, resolved to hold (in exception to the established practice) the 41st Meeting immediately prior to the XII Meeting of the Directing Council. It also resolved to authorize the Director, after appropriate negotiation with the Government of Cuba, to convoke that meeting for 12 and 13 August 1960, in the City of Havana.

In concluding this report, I wish to express my deep appreciation to the members of the Executive Committee who elected me Chairman and who so expertly assisted me in my task. I also wish to say that I have received from the Director and the staff members of the Bureau constant and effective collaboration which has facilitated the work of the Executive Committee over which I have had the honor to preside during this period.