

directing council



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XVII Meeting

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XIX Meeting



Port-of-Spain
Trinidad and Tobago
October 1967

Provisional Agenda Item 36

CD17/25 (Eng.)
6 September 1967
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

EVALUATION OF THE ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(Item proposed by the Government of Cuba)

Both Dr. Marcolino Candau, Director-General of the World Health Organization in the introduction to Official Records No. 156, and Dr. Abraham Horwitz, in the Foreword to "Facts on Progress (Miscellaneous Publication No. 81)", have stressed the vital importance, for the proper conduct of health programs, of the establishment and strengthening of the permanent health services that must support those programs. They further emphasized that the establishment of those services, as well as their organization, structure, regulations and procedures must be kept under review, with an eye to gradually improving the efficiency of the available resources.

It has become clear that vertical campaigns for the eradication or control of certain diseases encounter major difficulties if they are not based on the permanent public health services. Among other things this situation leads to an increase in operating costs at the very moment when there appears to be less justification for it because of the progress already achieved, as is the case with malaria when the eradication campaign enters the maintenance phase. Hence the continuing need to improve the organization of health services, to increase their resources, and to make them more efficient is even more pressing and leads us to consider the usefulness of an examination of the past, present and prospective situation, in the light of the circumstances of developing countries, which are those in which such situations obtain.

For this reason it is recommended that the XVII Directing Council of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, by whatever means it deems advisable, should resolve to sponsor a study on the organization and activities of national and local health services which will permit an evaluation covering the last four or five years, including an account of what has been achieved in that period, and charting future prospects in the developing countries in the Americas in the light of the findings. This task might be entrusted

to a study group which, armed with the information available to the Bureau and other information they would obtain from member states, should prepare a report to be submitted to the XVIII Directing Council. That report would serve as a guide for the countries as far as the present and future situation in this field is concerned and would make it possible to introduce changes into the pace of development if it were not fast enough and to seek greater support from the leaders of the various countries.

directing council



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION
XVII Meeting

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION
XIX Meeting



Port-of-Spain
Trinidad and Tobago
October 1967

CD17/40 (Eng.)
10 October 1967
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

LETTER FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF CUBA REQUESTING
THE WITHDRAWAL OF ITEM 36: "EVALUATION OF THE
ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL AND
LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES" FROM THE AGENDA

"Port-of-Spain,
10 October 1967

Dr. Abraham Horwitz
Director, PASB

Dear Dr. Horwitz:

The Delegation of Cuba to the XVII Directing Council requests you to withdraw from the agenda of the Meeting, one of the items proposed by my Government, entitled "Evaluation of the organization and activities of national and local health services" (Document CD17/25).

I make this request since our Delegation has to return home Wednesday morning (11 October) because of flight connections and it will not be possible to deal with this item today.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Roberto Pereda Chávez
Member of the Delegation
of Cuba".