



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## 28th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Washington, D.C., USA, 05 -13 June 1956*

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### 28th Session of the Executive Committee

#### RESOLUTIONS

**CE28.R1** The Executive Committee,

Considering that the Assistant Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau has, since 1 February 1956, provisionally assumed the duties of Secretary General of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau,

#### **Resolves:**

That the Assistant Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Dr. Carlos Luis González, perform the duties of Secretary of the Executive Committee during the present meeting.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 7*

**CE28.R2** The Executive Committee,

Having examined the communications exchanged between the Director and the former Secretary General of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau with reference to the amount paid to the latter as the repatriation grant to which he was entitled;  
and

Having studied the resolutions adopted by the Directing Council and the Executive Committee, as well as the provisions of the Staff Rules, relating to conditions of employment of personnel of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau,

**Resolves:**

1. [To affirm] that the decision adopted by the Director with respect to the payment of the repatriation grant to the former Secretary General was made in accordance with the present regulations.
2. In view of the special circumstances in which the persons in ungraded posts served during the period prior to 1951, and of the outstanding services performed by the Secretary General during the years of his employment, particularly during the critical days of the reorganization of the Bureau, to recommend to the Directing Council that it adopt the following resolution:

The Directing Council,

Having considered the recommendation of the Executive Committee with respect to the services of the former Secretary General,

**RESOLVES:**

To authorize the allocation, from the funds appropriated for 1956, of the sum of \$2,000 to be paid to the former Secretary General in recognition of services performed during the eight years of his employment.

(Approved at the fourth plenary session, 6 June 1956)

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 8*

**CE28.R3** The Executive Committee,

Considering the action taken by the 26th Meeting of the Executive Committee, which approved a provisional draft of the Program and Budget of the Pan American Sanitary Organization for 1957; and

Having studied in detail the provisional draft as presented in Official Document 12, and having approved the modifications appearing in Document CE28/8,

**Resolves:**

1. To instruct the Director to present to the IX Meeting of the Directing Council the Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Sanitary Organization for the year 1957, as prepared by the Executive Committee in cooperation with the Director, together with the Proposed Program and Budget of the World Health Organization for the Region of the Americas for 1958 and the provisional draft of the Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Sanitary Organization for 1958.
2. To recommend that the Directing Council approve the Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Sanitary Organization for 1957 in the sum of \$2,400,000, as presented.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 10*

**CE28.R4** The Executive Committee,

**Resolves:**

To include on the agenda of the IX Meeting of the Directing Council the topic "Financial Resources of the Pan American Sanitary Organization," and to designate Dr. Félix Hurtado as rapporteur to prepare, on behalf of the Executive Committee, a statement on this topic, to be brought to the attention of the Member Governments sufficiently in advance of the meeting of the Council.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 12*

**CE28.R5** The Executive Committee,

Having examined carefully the Financial Report of the Director for the fiscal year 1 January-31 December 1955, and the Report of the External Auditor on the audit

of the accounts of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau for the fiscal year 1955 (Official Documents No. 15); and Considering that the points raised by the representatives have been fully clarified,

**Resolves:**

To approve the Financial Report of the Director and the Report of the External Auditor for 1955 and transmit them to the next meeting of the Directing Council.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 13*

**CE28.R6** The Executive Committee,

Considering that the Directing Council, at its VIII Meeting, requested the Director to obtain a legal opinion on the interpretation of the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council with respect to a quorum and the vote required for the adoption of a resolution;

Considering that the Directing Council requested the Executive Committee to submit to the IX Meeting of the Council recommendations with respect to the interpretation of the aforementioned articles of the Rules of Procedure; and

Having examined the opinion given by the Director of the Department of International Law of the Pan American Union, as set forth in Document CE28/2, to the effect that:

- a) No special number of representatives is needed to constitute a quorum, since a quorum, according to Article 8 of the Rules of Procedure, is not a majority of the Members of the Organization, but of the Members participating in the meeting;
- b) On the basis of Articles 8 and 10 of the Rules of Procedure, it would appear that the correct interpretation of Article 15 of the Rules is that the two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting does not include those who abstain from voting; and
- c) The requirement of a two-thirds vote appears to be limited to the instances mentioned in Articles 15 and 48,

**Resolves:**

1. To recommend that the Directing Council consider the adoption of the following interpretation of the Rules of Procedure that relate to a quorum and to the vote required for the adoption of a resolution:

“A resolution shall be considered adopted if it obtains a simple majority vote of the representatives of the Members who cast an affirmative or negative vote, or a two-thirds majority in those instances in which a two-thirds majority is required by the Rules of Procedure or by decision of the Council in accordance with Article 6-B of the Constitution. It is not necessary that the number of affirmative and negative votes cast in any particular case be equal to or greater than the number required to establish a quorum.”

2. To further recommend that the Council consider the adoption of the following amendments to the Rules of Procedure:

- a) Amend Article 8 of the Rules of Procedure to read as follows: “The presence of a majority of representatives of Members of the Directing Council shall be required to constitute a quorum for a Meeting of the Council.”
- b) Insert a new article, 8-A, to read as follows: “A majority of the representatives of the Members of the Directing Council participating in a Meeting shall constitute a quorum in a plenary session, provided that the number is not less than ten.”
- c) In Article 10 substitute the words “this article” for the words “these rules”, at the beginning of the second sentence.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 14*

**CE28.R7** The Executive Committee,

Having examined the report and proposals of the Director regarding the total available funds of the Bureau as of 31 December 1955, amounting to \$123,524,

and noting Resolution XIV of the VIII Meeting of the Directing Council authorizing the Director to establish a Building Reserve Fund; and

Having noted the recommendations of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations,

**Resolves:**

1. To concur in the recommendations of the Director to:

a) Transfer to the Building Reserve Fund \$100,000 of the available funds from the year 1955; and

b) Transfer the balance of the funds available, amounting to \$23,524, to a special account for the purpose of meeting the initial expenses of architectural plans for the construction of a new Headquarters building.

2. To transmit to the IX Meeting of the Directing Council the report of the Director and the comments of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations, with the request that the Director's recommendations as outlined in the paragraphs above be approved.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 17*

**CE28.R8** The Executive Committee,

**Resolves:**

To recommend that the Directing Council authorize the Director to utilize as much of the Building Reserve Fund as may be required in the event that additional funds should be necessary for the intensification of the malaria eradication program.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 19*

**CE28.R9** The Executive Committee,

Having examined the report presented by the Director regarding the use of funds from the Emergency Revolving Fund during 1955 and early 1956 (Document CE28/5);

Having noted that the Fund has been reimbursed for the expenditure made in 1955; and

Being aware that the need for reimbursement of the \$14,575.82 expended in early 1956 has been called to the attention of the Government that received the emergency assistance,

**Resolves:**

To take note of the report of the Director on the use of the Emergency Revolving Fund during 1955 and early 1956.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 20*

**CE28.R10** The Executive Committee,

Having examined Document CE28/11 on the status of the collection of quota contributions, presented by the Director pursuant to Article V, paragraph 5.7, of the Financial Regulations,

**Resolves:**

To take note of the document presented by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau on the status of the collection of quota contributions (Document CE28/11).

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 21*

**CE28.R11** The Executive Committee, concurred in the preparations made by the Director for the meetings of the Governing Bodies to be held in Antigua Guatemala, Guatemala, from 11 to 29 September 1956.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 22*

**CE28.R12** The Executive Committee,

Having examined the provisional draft agenda (Document CD9/1) prepared by the Director for the IX Meeting of the Directing Council, which will take place in Antigua, Guatemala, from 16 to 29 September 1956;

Considering that Article 10, paragraph B, of the Constitution provides that "the agenda for the meeting of the Council shall be prepared in advance by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and approved by the Executive Committee," and [that], pursuant to Article 14(c) of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, the Member Governments may propose topics up to 21 days prior to the meeting at which such topics are to be considered; and

Considering that the Government of Costa Rica has requested the inclusion of one additional topic on the agenda, and that the Executive Committee has agreed to include two others,

**Resolves:**

1. To approve the provisional draft agenda prepared by the Director (Document CD9/1), with the inclusion of the following three topics:

a) "Sanitary Regulations for Hotels and Restaurants," proposed by the Government of Costa Rica; and

b) "Financial Resources of the Pan American Sanitary Organization" and "The Problem of Leprosy in the Americas," agreed to by the Executive Committee.

2. To request the Director to present to the 29th Meeting of the Executive Committee for consideration any new topics that are to be included in the draft agenda of the IX Meeting of the Directing Council, in accordance with Article 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council.



*June 1956 Doc. 28, 23*

**CE28.R13** The Executive Committee,

Considering that the Pan American Medical Confederation has convoked the member associations of that organization for the First Inter-American Hospital Convention, to be held in Havana on 8 and 9 October 1956,

**Resolves:**

1. To declare the usefulness of this Convention and its value for future hospital activities in the Continent.
2. To recommend that the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau or his representative attend the meetings of the Convention.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 25*

**CE28.R14** The Executive Committee,

Considering the resolution adopted by the Pan American Medical Confederation, as set forth in Document CE28/4, aimed at the achievement of maximum uniformity of legislation in the American States for the registration of pharmaceutical products;

Considering the need for clarifying the relationship of any inter-American program regarding the inscription, registration, and distribution of drugs to the activities of the World Health Organization and the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property in this general field; and

Considering the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of American States concerning the convening of specialized inter-American conferences, as well as the terms of the Agreement between the Organization of American States and the Pan American Sanitary Organization,

### **Resolves:**

1. To approve in principle the proposal of the Pan American Medical Confederation designed to achieve maximum uniformity of legislation in the American States in the registration of drugs.
2. To request the Director of the Bureau to consult the Pan American Union, the World Health Organization, and as appropriate, the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property, with a view to determining the most suitable procedure for the attainment of uniformity in the legislation of those American countries that require the registration of drugs.
3. To request the Director to submit a report [on the subject] to a future meeting of the Executive Committee.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 26*

**CE28.R15** The Executive Committee,

Considering that the Directing Council, at its VIII Meeting, recommended that the Executive Committee give special attention and study to Document CD8/36, "Conditions of Employment of Regular and Project Personnel in PAHO/WHO";

Considering that the rapporteur designated by the Executive Committee at its 27th Meeting has rendered a report on this subject revealing that variations exist in the conditions of employment of regular and project personnel;

Considering that the Agreement between the World Health Organization and the Pan American Sanitary Organization provides that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall serve as the Regional Office of WHO for the Western Hemisphere, within the provisions of the Constitution of the World Health Organization;

Considering that Article 53 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization provides that "the staff of the Regional Office shall be appointed in a manner to be determined by agreement between the Director-General and the Regional Director"; and

Recognizing that the present system of dual allowances creates a situation of inequality between regular and project personnel, a situation that affects their morale to the detriment of the task they are called upon to carry out,

**Resolves:**

1. To take note of the report submitted by the rapporteur.
2. To recommend that the project staff as well as the regular staff be retained in their specific functions, their transfer from one function to another being avoided as far as possible until such time as their rights are made uniform.
3. To request the Director to continue his efforts to resolve permanently the situation of dual entitlements for regular staff members.
4. To recommend that the Director take the necessary steps to reach an agreement with the Director-General of the World Health Organization in order to achieve more uniform and favorable conditions of employment for the personnel of the two organizations in the Region of the Americas.

*June 1956 Doc. 28, 28*

**Note:**

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