

directing council



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XXVII Meeting

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XXXII Meeting



Washington, D.C.
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Provisional Agenda Item 23

CD27/23 (Eng.)

29 July 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATUS OF THE EVALUATION OF PAN AMERICAN CENTERS: CARIBBEAN EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER, CARIBBEAN FOOD AND NUTRITION INSTITUTE, LATIN AMERICAN CENTER FOR PERINATOLOGY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INSTITUTE OF NUTRITION OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND PANAMA

In accordance with Resolutions XXXI of the XX Pan American Sanitary Conference and XXXI of the XXVI Meeting of the Directing Council, the Director appointed three external teams to make evaluations of CAREC, CFNI, and INCAP. CLAP has been postponed to 1981. The model evaluation procedure approved by the Executive Committee at its 82nd Meeting was field-tested at CAREC. It is flexible and has adapted well to the needs of individual Centers and different circumstances. Various mechanisms have been developed to obtain the inputs from participating Member Governments, which are a vital component of the review process. The progress reports on the three Centers, examined by the 84th Meeting of the Executive Committee, are submitted with elaborations to the extent that needed additional information was obtained. The Directing Council is invited to examine these reports in the light of Resolution XXII of the 84th Meeting of the Executive Committee, and to determine PAHO's role in the future management and operations of the Centers.

Introduction

The XX Pan American Sanitary Conference (1978) requested the Director to carry out an evaluation of the 10 Pan American Centers. The model procedure approved by the 82nd Meeting of the Executive Committee,¹ field-tested at CAREC, has now been utilized in five Centers. It has been shown to be flexible enough to meet the needs of individual Centers and varying circumstances.

The most important component of the evaluation process is the input from Member Governments served by the Centers and from the organizations participating in the work of each Center. It is recognized that there are difficulties associated with compiling formal, official responses, especially where they involve financial and other commitments. Nevertheless, the views of the governments are essential for a meaningful, comprehensive evaluation of the PAHO programs and the roles of the Centers in them.

The XXVI Meeting of the Directing Council (1979) further requested that the original five-year schedule be shortened.² Because of financial and other considerations it was decided to review the PAHO nutrition programs and the roles of the two nutrition Centers (CFNI and INCAP) in it, as a priority. Accordingly, the evaluations of five Centers are in progress. The two animal health Centers (CEPANZO and PANAFOTSA) will be considered under agenda item 22. The external reports to the Director of PASB on the other three Centers--CAREC, CFNI, and INCAP--are submitted to the Directing Council for consideration and decision on the future role of PAHO in the Centers.

Because of the workload involved with the evaluation of five Centers this year, it was decided to defer the review of the Latin American Center for Perinatology and Human Development (CLAP) until 1981.

More Detailed Report on the Pan American Centers

Following the presentation of a report by a working group on the Pan American Centers (Document CSP20/3) at the XX Pan American Sanitary Conference in 1978, the Conference approved Resolution XXXI, operative paragraph 7 of which reads:

To request that the report presented by the working group be completed by describing in greater detail each individual center, and to ask the Director to submit this to the next meeting of the Directing Council.

¹Resolution CE82.R16

²Resolution CD26.31

This matter was discussed further by the Directing Council at its XXVI Meeting in 1979, and amplified to mean a report short of the comprehensive evaluation of each individual Center, but more detailed than Document CSP20/3. In accordance with operative paragraph 5 of Resolution XXXI of the Council:

To request the Director to present, in compliance with operative paragraph 7 of Resolution XXXI of the XX Pan American Sanitary Conference, a more detailed report on the individual Pan American Centers for presentation to the XXVII Meeting of the Directing Council,

a descriptive analysis of the Centers has been prepared, and is presented to the XXVII Meeting of the Directing Council as Document CD27/23, ADD. IV.