



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



# 129<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Washington, D.C., USA, 28 September 2001*

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**FINAL REPORT**

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## FINAL REPORT

### Opening of the Session

The 129<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee was held at the Headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 2001. The session was attended by representatives of the following Members of the Executive Committee elected by the Directing Council: Bolivia, Canada, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Honduras, Peru, Jamaica, and Uruguay. El Salvador, the ninth Member of the Committee, was not represented. Also present in an observer capacity were representatives of the following other Member States and Associate Member: Cuba, Panama, Puerto Rico, and United States of America.

Dr. Carlos Dotres Martínez (Cuba, President of the Executive Committee at its 127<sup>th</sup> and 128<sup>th</sup> Sessions) opened the session and welcomed the participants, extending a special welcome to the new members of the Committee just elected by the 43<sup>rd</sup> Directing Council: Dominican Republic, Honduras, and Peru.

### Procedural Matters

#### *Officers*

Pursuant to Rule 15 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee elected the following Member States to serve as officers for its 129<sup>th</sup> and 130<sup>th</sup> sessions:

<i>President:</i>	Guyana	(Dr. Rudolph Cummings)
<i>Vice President:</i>	Uruguay	(Dr. Eduardo Touya)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Bolivia	(Ms. María del Carmen Oblitas)

Sir George A. O. Alleyne, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB), served as Secretary ex officio, and Dr. David Brandling-Bennett, Deputy Director of PASB, served as Technical Secretary.

#### *Adoption of the Agenda (Document CE129/1)*

Pursuant to Rule 9 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretariat (Decision CE129(D1)).

## **Committee Matters**

### ***Election of One Member State to the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming***

Honduras was elected to serve on the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming on the expiration of the period of office of Cuba on the Executive Committee (Decision CE129(D2)).

### ***Election of One Member State to the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations***

Peru was elected to serve on the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations on the expiration of the period of office of Nicaragua on the Executive Committee (Decision CE129(D3)).

## **Governing Body Matters**

### ***Dates and Proposed Topics for the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming***

The Committee decided that the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming (SPP) would be held on 25–27 March 2002.

The Director proposed that the following topics be examined at that session: Evaluation of the strategic and programmatic orientations (SPOs) for the Organization for the period 1999–2002, progress report on the strategic plan for PAHO for the period 2003–2007, integrated management of childhood illness (IMCI), social protection in health, national health accounts, and maternal mortality and morbidity.

Members of the Committee proposed several additional topics for consideration during the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the SPP, namely: community health workers, the public health response to chronic diseases, health of indigenous peoples, health and aging, and health in the Americas in the next century, focusing especially on the health challenges facing the Region in the next two decades. In connection with the evaluation of the SPOs for 1999–2002, it was suggested that the Subcommittee should undertake a critical analysis of the Pan American Centers, including their role in the Organization, their administration and financing, and how they might function more effectively. It was also pointed out that the 43<sup>rd</sup> Directing Council had approved the recommendation of the Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development to include the subject of “gender, women, health, and development” on the agendas of the Governing Bodies in 2002. Accordingly, the Committee recommended that that topic be placed on the Subcommittee’s agenda.

In the documents to be prepared on all agenda items, the Secretariat was asked to include information regarding the impact of the subject area on marginalized populations (particularly children, women, and indigenous groups) and budget considerations (specifically, the budget allocation for the subject area in question).

In relation to the matter of vaccines and immunization, to be discussed at the Executive Committee's 130<sup>th</sup> Session in June 2002, the Delegate of Canada suggested that the document should examine the issue of preparedness for the next influenza pandemic and said that his Government would be pleased to collaborate in providing information for the document.

The Director said that every effort would be made to incorporate all of the agenda items proposed by Members into the Subcommittee's agenda, though some might have to be deferred to the next session. The Secretariat would seek to involve Member Governments in drawing up some of the documents, as had been done quite successfully in the past, and would ensure that the documents were distributed well in advance of the session.

The Committee agreed that the Secretariat would draw up the agenda for the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the SPP, bearing in mind the topics proposed by Members.

The Committee adopted Decision CE129(D4) on this item.

#### ***Dates of the 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee***

The Committee decided to hold its 130<sup>th</sup> Session on 24–28 June 2002 (Decision CE129(D5)).

#### ***Dates of the 26<sup>th</sup> Pan American Sanitary Conference, 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas***

The Committee decided that the 26<sup>th</sup> Pan American Sanitary Conference would be held on 23–27 September 2002 (Decision CE129(D6)).

#### **Other Matters**

In light of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Directing Council's recent discussion of the process for electing the Director of PASB, the Committee discussed the possibility of creating a

forum in which candidates to the directorship could present their vision for the Organization. It was suggested that a forum for that purpose might be held as a part of the Committee's next regular session in June 2002. It was also proposed that, for the benefit of countries that might not be able to send a representative to the session, written questions could be solicited in advance and videotapes of the proceedings could be provided. One Member of the Executive Committee, as well as some observers, spoke in favor of having the candidates make presentations during the Executive Committee's 130<sup>th</sup> session. However, other Members pointed out that the Directing Council had not formally endorsed the proposal of having a forum to allow candidates to present their platforms, and they expressed strong opposition to any change in the current electoral process. Those Members maintained that it would be inappropriate to utilize the resources of the Organization and the time of the Governing Bodies for discussion of electoral platforms; rather, it should be the responsibility of individual candidates—with the support of the countries that had proposed their candidacy—to make their positions known through such means as distribution of written materials and visits to countries throughout the Region.

The Director said that he had intended to make a proposal to the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming as to how it might be possible to create a forum for presentations by candidates within the normal framework of the Executive Committee; however, in light of the discussion, he would not wish to do so now, unless there was clear consensus within the Committee that such a forum should exist.

To bring some finality to the matter, the President proposed that the Committee vote on a motion put forward by Jamaica, namely, that the electoral process, as described in Article 21 of the PAHO Constitution and Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, should remain unchanged and that candidates should not make a formal presentation of their programs to any session of the Governing Bodies prior to the election.

By a vote of seven votes in favor to one against, the Committee approved the motion (Decision CE129(D7)).

### **Closing of the Session**

The President thanked the delegates for their participation and declared the 129<sup>th</sup> Session closed.

## **Decisions**

In the course of the 129<sup>th</sup> Session, the Executive Committee took the following decisions:

### ***CE129(D1) Adoption of the Agenda***

Pursuant to Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, the Committee adopted the agenda submitted by the Director (Document CE129/1).

*(Single meeting, 28 September 2001)*

### ***CE129(D2) Election of One Member State to the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming***

Honduras was elected to serve on the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming on the expiration of the period of office of Cuba on the Executive Committee.

*(Single meeting, 28 September 2001)*

### ***CE129(D3) Election of One Member State to the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations***

Peru was elected to serve on the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations on the expiration of the period of office of Nicaragua on the Executive Committee.

*(Single meeting, 28 September 2001)*

### ***CE129(D4) Dates and Agenda for the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming***

The Committee decided that the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming would be held on 25–27 March 2002, at the Headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, D.C. The Committee also authorized the Secretariat to draw up the agenda for the session, bearing in mind the topics proposed by



the Executive Committee and the recommendation of the Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development that the subject “gender, women, health, and development” be included on the agendas of the Governing Bodies in 2002.

*(Single meeting, 28 September 2001)*

***CE129(D5) Dates of the 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee***

Pursuant to Article 17.A of the PAHO Constitution, the Committee set the dates for its first regular session in the year 2002, the 130th Session, to be held on 24-28 June 2002.

*(Single meeting, 28 September 2001)*

***CE129(D6) Dates of the 26<sup>th</sup> Pan American Sanitary Conference, 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas***

Pursuant to Article 7.A of the PAHO Constitution and Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Pan American Sanitary Conference, the Committee authorized the Director to convene the 26<sup>th</sup> Pan American Sanitary Conference, 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, for the period 23–27 September 2002.

*(Single meeting, 28 September 2001)*

***CE129(D7) Process for Election of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau***

The Executive Committee decided that the electoral process, as described in Article 21 of the PAHO Constitution and Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, should remain unchanged and that candidates should not make a formal presentation of their programs to any session of the Governing Bodies prior to the election.

*(Single meeting, 28 September 2001)*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the President of the Executive Committee and the Secretary ex officio, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, sign the present Final Report in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

DONE in Washington, D.C., United States of America, on this twenty-eighth day of September in the year two thousand one. The Secretary shall deposit the original texts in the archives of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and shall send copies thereof to the Member States of the Organization.

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Rudolph Cummings  
Delegate of Guyana  
President of the 129<sup>th</sup> Session  
of the Executive Committee

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George A. O. Alleyne  
Secretary ex officio of the 129<sup>th</sup> Session  
of the Executive Committee  
Director of the Pan American  
Sanitary Bureau

## **AGENDA**

### **1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**

### **2. PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

- 2.1 Election of the President, Vice President, and Rapporteur
- 2.2 Adoption of the Agenda

### **3. COMMITTEE MATTERS**

- 3.1 Election of One Member State to the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming on the Expiration of the of Office of Cuba on the Executive Committee
- 3.2 Election of One Member State to the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations on the Expiration of the Period of Office of Nicaragua on the Executive Committee

### **4. GOVERNING BODY MATTERS**

- 4.1 Dates of and Proposed Topics for the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming
- 4.2 Dates of the 130<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee
- 4.3 Dates of the 26<sup>th</sup> Pan American Sanitary Conference, 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

### **5. OTHER MATTERS**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS  
LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES**

**Members of the Committee  
Miembros del Comité**

**Bolivia**

Mrs. María del Carmen Oblitas  
Segunda Secretaria  
Misión Permanente de Bolivia ante la  
Organización de los Estados Americanos  
Washington, D.C.

**Canada  
Canadá**

Mr. Nick Previsich  
Senior Science Advisor  
International Affairs Directorate  
Health Canada  
Ottawa

Mr. Doug Williams  
Chief, Mine Action Unit  
Canadian International Development Agency  
Health Canada  
Ottawa

**Dominican Republic  
República Dominicana**

Dr. Plutarco Arias  
Subsecretario de Salud Pública y Asistencia Social  
Secretaría de Salud Pública y Asistencia Social  
Santo Domingo

**Members of the Committee (cont.)**

**Miembros del Comité (cont.)**

**Guyana**

Dr. Rudolph Cummings  
Chief Medical Officer  
Ministry of Health and Labour  
Georgetown

Ms. Maharine Yaw  
Alternate Representative  
Permanent Mission of Guyana to the  
Organization of American States  
Washington, D.C.

**Honduras**

Dr. Plutarco Edmundo Castellanos  
Ministro de Salud  
Secretaría de Estado en el Despacho de Salud  
Tegucigalpa

**Jamaica**

Hon. John A. Junor, M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Ministry of Health  
Kingston

Dr. Grace Allen-Young  
Acting Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Health  
Kingston

Dr. Peter Figueroa  
Chief Medical Officer  
Ministry of Health  
Kingston

**Members of the Committee (cont.)**  
**Miembros del Comité (cont.)**

**Peru**

Dr. Fernando Carbone Campoverde  
Director General de la Oficina de Financiamiento, Inversiones  
y Cooperación Externa  
Ministerio de Salud  
Lima

**Uruguay**

Dr. Eduardo Touya  
Director General de Salud  
Ministerio de Salud Pública  
Montevideo

**Observers  
Observadores**

***Member States  
Estados Miembros***

**Cuba**

Dr. Carlos Pablo Dotres Martínez  
Ministro de Salud Pública  
Ministerio de Salud Pública  
La Habana

Dr. Antonio D. González Fernández  
Director de Relaciones Internacionales  
Ministerio de Salud Pública  
La Habana

**Panama  
Panamá**

Sr. Raúl Saint Malo  
Director de Asuntos Internacionales  
Ministerio de Salud  
Ciudad de Panamá

Lic. Claudia Guerrero M.  
Sub-Directora de Asuntos Internacionales  
Ministerio de Salud  
Ciudad de Panamá

**United States of America  
Estados Unidos de América**

Mr. Michael Lyman  
Ms. Mary Lou Valdez

**Observers (cont.)**  
**Observadores (cont.)**

*Associate Member*  
*Miembro Asociado*

**Puerto Rico**

Dra. Aida González Gregory  
Sub-Secretaria de Salud  
Departamento de Salud  
San Juan

Dr. Raul G. Castellanos Bran  
Director de la Oficina de Coordinación de OPS/OMS  
San Juan



**PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
ORGANIZACIÓN PANAMERICANA DE LA SALUD**

*Director and Secretary ex officio of the Council  
Director y Secretario ex officio del Consejo*

Dr. George A. O. Alleyne  
Director

*Advisers to the Director  
Asesores del Director*

Dr. David Brandling-Bennett  
Deputy Director  
Director Adjunto

Dr. Mirta Roses Periago  
Assistant Director  
Subdirectora

Mr. Eric J. Boswell  
Chief of Administration  
Jefe de Administración

Dr. Juan Antonio Casas  
Director, Division of Health and Human Development  
Director, División de Salud y Desarrollo Humano

Dr. María Teresa Cerqueira  
Director, Division of Health Promotion and Protection  
Directora, División de Promoción y Protección de la Salud

Dr. Stephen J. Corber  
Director, Division of Disease Prevention and Control  
Director, División de Prevención y Control de Enfermedades

**PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION (cont.)**  
**ORGANIZACIÓN PANAMERICANA DE LA SALUD (cont.)**

***Advisers to the Director (cont.)***

***Asesores del Director (cont.)***

Dr. Ciro de Quadros  
Director, Division of Vaccines and Immunization  
Director, División de Vacunas e Inmunización

Dr. Daniel López Acuña  
Director, Division of Health Systems and Services Development  
Director, División de Desarrollo de Sistemas y Servicios de Salud

Dr. Mauricio Pardón  
Director, Division of Health and Environment  
Director, División de Salud y Ambiente

Dr. Carlos Castillo-Salgado  
Chief, Special Program for Health Analysis  
Jefe, Programa Especial de Análisis de Salud

Dr. Irene Klinger  
Chief, Office of External Relations  
Jefa, Oficina de Relaciones Externas

Mr. Philip MacMillan  
Chief, Department of Personnel  
Jefe, Departamento de Personal

Mr. Mark Mathews  
Chief, Department of Budget and Finance  
Jefe, Departamento de Presupuesto y Finanzas

Dr. Karen Sealey  
Chief, Office of Analysis and Strategic Planning  
Jefa, Oficina de Análisis y Planificación Estratégica

**PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION (cont.)**  
**ORGANIZACIÓN PANAMERICANA DE LA SALUD (cont.)**

*Advisers to the Director (cont.)*

*Asesores del Director (cont.)*

*Legal Counsel*

*Asesora Jurídica*

Dr. Heidi V. Jiménez

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Chief, Department of General Services

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Ms. Rosa Irene Otero

Chief, Conference and Secretariat Services

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