



*executive committee of
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN
SANITARY
ORGANIZATION

*working party of
the regional committee*

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



*17th Meeting
Havana, Cuba
10-12 September 1952*

CEL7/8 (Eng.)
8 August 1952
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Topic 10: INTER-AMERICAN MEDICAL CONGRESSES

A. Report of the Director on implementation of Resolution XV adopted
by the Executive Committee at its 16th Meeting

At its 16th Meeting (Washington, D.C., 21 - 30 April 1952), the Executive Committee adopted Resolution XV on the coordination of inter-American medical congresses. In compliance with the provisions of that resolution, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, on 29 May 1952, sent circular letter CS-CL-37-52 (Annex 1) to the Ministers of Public Health of the Member Countries, to call their attention to the functions assigned to the Executive Committee by Resolution X of the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference, with regard to inter-American and Pan American medical congresses.

Several of the Member Governments have replied to the above-mentioned circular letter, stating that the contents thereof had been noted.

Pursuant to paragraph d) of the aforesaid Resolution XV, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau has transmitted each month to the Member Governments a calendar of inter-American and Pan American medical and health meetings and congresses, prepared by the Conference Section.

Up to 8 August 1952, the Director received no information from the Governments regarding the organization of meetings and congresses that should be brought to the attention of the present meeting of the Executive Committee. However, on 19 May 1952 the Chairman of the XIV International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy, which is to be held at Montevideo from 1 to 7 March 1953, addressed a letter to the Zone VI Representative of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, requesting the technical assistance of the Bureau in organizing that Congress. With regard to this request, the Members of the Executive Committee will find the necessary background information and a proposed resolution in section B of the present document.

B. Request for technical assistance to the XIV International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy

Background

The XIV International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy will meet at Montevideo, Uruguay, from 1 to 7 March 1953.

In his letter of 19 May 1952 to Dr. Emilio Budnik, Zone VI Representative of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Dr. Guillermo Rodríguez Guerrero, Chairman of the XIV International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy, requested that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, "as a contribution to the organization of our Congress", make available the services of two specialists in international conference organization.

In forwarding the above-mentioned request to the Bureau, the Representative of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau stated that "although the meeting is called 'Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy', it will undoubtedly cover military health", and he added that the request sent to the Bureau "has the most favorable support of the Ministry of Public Health and of Sr. Martínez Trueba, President of the National Council of the Government".

It should also be mentioned that the V World Health Assembly adopted a resolution establishing official relations between the World Health Organization and the International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy.

In Resolution XV adopted at its 16th Meeting, the Executive Committee recommended to the Director that "the Bureau assist in furnishing services, subject to the budgetary limitations and without this signifying additional obligations not authorized in the Budget, to those medical congresses of an official character concerning which the Executive Committee has taken the action, by correspondence if necessary, foreseen by paragraphs 5 and 6 of Resolution X of the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference."

Owing to the proximity of the 17th Meeting of the Executive Committee and the relatively late date on which the XIV International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy will meet, it was not deemed necessary, in the present case, to communicate with the Members of the Executive Committee by letter. However, in view of the request received, the report of the Zone Representative of the Bureau, and the Provisions of Resolution XV of the Executive Committee, the Committee may wish to adopt a resolution along the following lines:

Proposed Resolution

WHEREAS:

The President of the XIV International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy, which is to be held at Montevideo from 1 to 7 March 1953, has requested the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to make available the technical assistance of members of its staff for the organization of the said Congress; and

Pursuant to the provisions of Resolution XV adopted by this Committee at its 16th Meeting, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau may assist in "furnishing services, subject to budgetary limitations and without this signifying additional obligations not authorized in the Budget, to those medical congresses of an official character concerning which the Executive Committee has taken ... action",

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES:

To authorize the Director, in conformity with the provisions of Resolution XV adopted by the Executive Committee at its 16th Meeting, and to the extent compatible with the requirements of the service, to make appropriate arrangements for the Bureau to provide the requested cooperation in organizing the XIV International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy, which is to be held at Montevideo from 1 to 7 March 1953, it being understood that the Bureau will pay the salaries but not the travel expenses and per diem of the personnel whom it assigns for this purpose.

CEL7/8 (Eng.)
ANNEX I
8 August 1952
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

(Circular letter addressed to the Health
Authorities of the American Republics)

CS-CL-37-52

29 May 1952

I have the honor to transmit the May issue of the Monthly Calendar of Selected International Meetings, which lists the inter-American and Pan American medical and public health meetings and congresses of which the Pan American Sanitary Bureau has been informed.

I take this opportunity to transmit, in addition, a copy of Resolution XV of the 16th Meeting of the Executive Committee, which relates to the coordination of inter-American medical congresses. I wish to call your attention particularly to the recommendation contained in paragraph b) of the said resolution, in compliance with which I take the liberty of requesting that you arrange to have the Pan American Sanitary Bureau notified, at the earliest possible date, of the plans and programs of organizing bodies or committees of inter-American and Pan American medical congresses that request assistance or are of an official character and that plan to hold meetings in your country during 1952 and 1953. This information will enable the Director of the Bureau to make such suggestions as he deems pertinent from the point of view of coordination, in compliance with instructions from the Executive Committee and the provisions of Resolution X of the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference, paragraphs 6 and 7 of which state the following:

- "6. To instruct the Executive Committee:
 - "a) To study carefully the information furnished by the organizing committee as to the purpose and program of a proposed meeting, giving due regard to the coordination of dates; and
 - "b) To submit suggestions to governments on whether to discourage or encourage the conference in question.
- "7. To instruct the Executive Committee not to intervene in arrangements for scientific programs which should remain a responsibility of the organizing group, but that it may propose modifications of the agenda likely to enhance the significance of these meetings to the Americas."

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ANNEX I

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Resolution XV of the 16th Meeting of the Executive Committee establishes a work procedure for carrying out the provisions of Resolution X of the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference, and the information requested in the present letter is required to enable the Director to give effect to those provisions of Resolution XV of the Executive Committee for which he is responsible. Moreover, it is essential that the information on inter-American and Pan American medical congresses be kept up-to-date by the Bureau. For this reason, we wish to request that the Bureau be notified of all congresses of this nature as soon as your office is informed that such congresses are to be held, and that any supplementary information that is available also be transmitted to the Bureau.

We shall be very grateful for your assistance in carrying out these decisions of the Pan American Sanitary Conference and the Executive Committee.

Sincerely yours,

For the Director

Miguel E. Bustamante
Secretary General

Enclosures