

*executive committee of  
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN  
SANITARY  
ORGANIZATION



*working party of  
the regional committee*

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



22nd Meeting  
Washington, D. C.  
April 1954

CE22/8 (Eng.)  
20 April 1954  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Topic 13: TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS AT THE XIV PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

Background

The Directing Council, at its VII Meeting (Resolution XXIII), stated that a "detailed, methodical, and exclusively technical discussion of the reports submitted to the Pan American Sanitary Conference could prove extremely helpful in formulating national and international health programs in the Americas" and authorized the Executive Committee "to study the four-year reports of the Governments, establish the procedure to be followed for the seminar-type discussion of the reports, and set the time limit for discussion and the methods to be followed."

It was brought out at that meeting of the Directing Council that the technical discussions could best be facilitated if the four-year reports had similarity of form and simplified and direct statistical presentation. To this end the Director had transmitted on 21 August 1953 a statistical questionnaire which the health authorities of the Member Countries were requested to fill in and return to the Bureau during April 1954.

The health authorities were also informed by the Director, on 11 February 1954, that the four-year reports would consist of two parts: one statistical, and the other analytical summarizing the progress achieved since the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference. The Member Governments also were informed that the chief of each delegation to the Conference would have the opportunity, if he so desired, to present a summary of the report to a plenary session, with a time limit of 20 minutes for the presentation.

The Director furthermore suggested to the Governments that the complete report, or at least the statistical part of the report be transmitted to the Bureau before 1 April 1954.

The Bureau has thus far received the complete report of Venezuela, descriptive reports from Ecuador and Surinam, and the statistical parts of the reports of Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, and the United States. Copies of the reports received have been made available to the Members of the Executive Committee.

A preliminary examination of these reports indicates that the following questions appear to be of principal interest to the Member Countries and are suitable for the scientific discussions at the Conference:

#### STATISTICS

1. Methods of Improving the Reliability of Raw Statistical Data Required for Health Programs.

#### MALARIA

2. Status of the Malaria Problem in the Americas.

#### MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

3. Control of Infant Diarrheas in the Light of Recent Scientific Progress.

#### HEALTH PERSONNEL NEEDS

4. Problems in the Selection of Students for Medical Education.
5. Problems in the Training of Sanitary Inspectors.

#### HEALTH EDUCATION

6. Application of Health Education Methods in Rural Areas in Latin America.

It has been planned that the technical discussions, held in working parties of the Committee on Technical Matters of the Conference, deal with three topics only, and that the procedure generally used in seminar-type discussions be followed, namely, that an expert be invited to open the discussion by the presentation of an introductory statement, followed by general discussions by the participants.

In view of the above, the Director has the honor to present the following proposal to the Executive Committee.

Proposed Resolution

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the Directing Council, at its VII Meeting, decided that technical discussions at the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference should be held on the basis of the four-year reports to be presented by Member States on public health conditions and progress achieved during the period between the XIII and XIV Pan American Sanitary Conferences, and authorized the Executive Committee to study the four-year reports, establish the procedure to be followed for the seminar-type discussion of the reports, and set the time limit for the technical discussions and the methods to be followed;

CONSIDERING that technical discussions are an integral part of the agenda of the Pan American Sanitary Conference by virtue of Article 4-D of the Constitution of the Pan American Sanitary Organization, and that Committee I (Technical Matters) of the XIV Conference will be concerned principally with these technical discussions; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the measures proposed by the Director to facilitate the technical discussions, as well as the reports of the Member States received up to the present time,

RESOLVES:

1. To select, because of their general interest, the following three topics for seminar-type discussions by the working parties of Committee I (Technical Matters) of the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference:

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

2. To recommend that the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau inform the Ministries of Public Health of the Member Governments of the Organization, of the three topics selected for the technical discussions.

3. To authorize the Director to designate three experts, each to present an introductory statement on topics a, b, and c, respectively.

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ADDENDUM I  
21 April 1954  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

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Rules of Procedure for the Working Parties  
of Committee I (Technical Matters)

1. The Chairman of Committee I, in conformity with the decisions of the General Committee, will install the working parties.
2. Each working party will elect a Moderator at its first session.
3. Each working party will also elect a Rapporteur, who will be assisted by a Technical Secretary designated by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.
4. The discussions will open with the presentation of an introductory statement by the expert designated for that purpose.
5. Each working party will hold not more than five sessions in accordance with the program of the Conference.
6. The Rapporteur of each working party will prepare a report on the discussions for approval by the working party.
7. The report approved by each working party will be submitted to Committee I for consideration.
8. The Rapporteur of Committee I will prepare a report containing the declarations, recommendations, or resolutions adopted by the Committee as a result of the discussion of the reports of the working parties.
9. The report of Committee I will be submitted to the General Committee for coordination and any editing deemed necessary.
10. With such modifications as the General Committee may introduce, the report of Committee I will be submitted to a plenary session of the Conference for approval.
11. The Final Act of the Conference will contain only such portions of the Committee report as are in the form of recommendations or resolutions and as have been specifically approved in plenary session.
12. The reports of the working parties and the report of Committee I will be included in the Proceedings (Memoria) of the Conference.