

*executive committee of
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN
SANITARY
ORGANIZATION



*working party of
the regional committee*

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



25th Meeting
Mexico, D. F.
25 April - 3 May 1955

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31 August 1955
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PRECIS MINUTES
OF THE
25TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY ORGANIZATION,
WORKING PARTY OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

* Definitive text of the précis minutes, incorporating the provisional texts contained in Documents CE25/16, CE25/17, CE25/21, CE25/24, CE25/28, CE25/29, CE25/40, CE25/41, and CE25/43.

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* Lists of the topics discussed appear at the beginning of the minutes of each session.

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Members of the Executive Committee

ARGENTINA

Representative

Dr. Gerardo Segura
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Ministry of Public Health
Paseo Colón 367, Planta Baja
Buenos Aires, Argentina

BRAZIL

Representative

Dr. Bichat Rodrigues
Health Officer
Ministry of Public Health
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Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

COLOMBIA

Representative

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Director, National Public Health
Ministry of Public Health
Bogotá, Colombia

Members of the Executive Committee (Cont.)

COLOMBIA (Cont.)

Alternate

Dr. Tomás Jaramillo
Secretary General
Ministry of Public Health
Bogotá, Colombia

HAITI

Representative

Dr. Lucien Pierre-Noël
Assistant Director General of
Public Health
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

PANAMA

Representative

Dr. Alberto Bissot, Jr.
Director of Public Health
Ministry of Labor, Welfare, and
Public Health
Panama, Republic of Panama

PARAGUAY

Representative

Dr. Enrique Zacarías Arza
Minister of Public Health and
Social Welfare
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Asunción, Paraguay

Members of the Executive Committee (Cont.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Representative

Dr. Frederick J. Brady
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International Health
Public Health Service
Department of Health, Education,
and Welfare
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Alternates

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Chief, Latin American Branch
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PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU

Dr. Fred L. Soper, Director
Member ex officio of the Committee

Observers

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Organizations
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Observers (Cont.)

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Havre 15
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Mr. Guy Monge
Secretary, Embassy of France
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Mexico, D. F.

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Mr. Frans von Oven
First Secretary, Embassy of the
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PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU

Dr. Fred L. Soper, Director
Member ex officio of the Committee

Dr. Miguel E. Bustamante
Secretary General
Secretary of the Committee

Advisers

Dr. Carlos L. González
Assistant Director

PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU (Cont.)

Advisers (Cont.)

Dr. Gustavo Molina
Chief, Division of Public Health

Mr. Harry A. Hinderer
Chief, Division of Administration

Dr. Myron E. Wegman
Chief, Division of Education
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Zone Representative

Dr. Guillermo E. Samamé, Zone II
Roma 36-B
Mexico, D. F.

Conference Officer

Mr. Carlos E. Urrutia

PRECIS MINUTES

PRECIS MINUTES OF THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION

Mexico, D.F.

Monday, 25 April 1955, at 10:40 a.m.

<u>Provisional Chairman:</u>	Dr. Enrique ZACARIAS ARZA	Paraguay
<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr. Alberto BISSOT, Jr.	Panama
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u>	Dr. Lucien PIERRE-NOEL	Haiti
<u>Secretary:</u>	Dr. Miguel E. BUSTAMANTE	Pan American Sanitary Bureau

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TOPIC 1: OPENING BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE 24TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) opened the 25th Meeting, extending a cordial greeting to the representatives, observers, and other participants, and expressing his deep appreciation to Mexico for having received them with such warm hospitality.

TOPIC 2: ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

The PROVISIONAL CHAIRMAN called for the election of the Chairman of the 25th Meeting.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) nominated Dr. Alberto Bissot, Jr. (Panama) as Chairman.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) seconded the nomination.

DECISION TAKEN

The Representative of Panama was unanimously elected Chairman of the 25th Meeting of the Executive Committee.

Dr. BRADY (United States) nominated Dr. Lucien Pierre-Noël (Haiti) as Vice-Chairman.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) supported this proposal.

DECISION TAKEN

The Representative of Haiti was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman.

The PROVISIONAL CHAIRMAN thanked the representatives for their collaboration during the 24th Meeting and expressed confidence in the success of the forthcoming deliberations of the Committee.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) congratulated the outgoing Chairman on his outstanding performance in presiding over the discussions of the 24th Meeting.

Dr. BISSOT, Jr. (Panama) took the Chair and, on behalf of his country, expressed his appreciation of the honor given him.

Dr. PIERRE-NOËL (Haiti) also expressed his gratitude, attributing his election to the Members' warm feelings toward his country, rather than to his personal qualifications.

TOPIC 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Document CE25/1, Rev.1)

After explaining the use of the working documents of the meeting and other organizational matters, the SECRETARY read Document CE25/1, Rev. 1.

DECISION TAKEN

The agenda appearing in Document CE25/1, Rev. 1, was unanimously adopted.

DETERMINATION OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) proposed that a working party be established to study the Proposed Program and Budget for 1956 and that this topic be discussed in plenary session once the working party had presented its report.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) agreed with Dr. Segura and proposed that the working party be composed of the Representatives of Argentina, Haiti, and the United States.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) suggested that Dr. Brady and Dr. Pierre-Noël serve on the working party, since they had been members of the budget party last year. He suggested that the third member be either the Representative of Colombia or the Representative of Paraguay, inasmuch as both had recently joined the Executive Committee and could, in this way, become familiar with one of the activities of the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that it was necessary to determine the order of business before proceeding with the establishment of the working party.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) proposed that the topics be discussed in the order in which they appear in Document CE25/1, Rev. 1.

Dr. BRADY (United States) noted that, if the order of business were approved as it stood, Topic 4, the Proposed Program and Budget, would be the next topic to be discussed. He felt that the working party should be appointed and that, during the sessions of the Executive Committee, the working party should be given half a day to go over the budget, item by item. He expressed the hope that all the Members of the Executive Committee and the observers would take part in the discussions, even though three or four persons would be in charge of writing the report. He suggested, therefore, that Topic 4 be taken up later on, at a plenary session, in order to allow the working party time to review the budget and then present its report.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained that it was precisely to allow the working party time to undertake its study that this topic had been included among the first on the agenda.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) felt that the order of business, as given in Document CE25/1, Rev. 1, should be approved. He added that the Financial Report and Report of the Auditor had usually been examined by the Executive Committee in plenary session. The Proposed Program and Budget, on the other hand, could be studied by the working party and discussed in plenary session, once the working party had presented its report.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) stated that the order in which the topics of the agenda were discussed was not of prime importance and that the Committee need not hesitate to approve the order as it appears in Document CE25/1, Rev. 1, inasmuch as such a decision was not binding, since the Committee was free to introduce changes at any time. If the proposal of the Representative of Argentina were accepted, the working party might proceed in one of two ways: either it might study the document and report thereon to the Executive Committee, or the Executive Committee, in plenary session, might study the topic and the working party meet afterwards, in order to set forth in a report the opinions expressed during the discussions of the Committee. He felt it advisable to give the working party a time limit for carrying out its work.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed that the topics of the agenda would be discussed in the order in which they appear in Document CE25/1, Rev. 1, unless the Executive Committee should decide otherwise.

TOPIC 4: PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR 1956 (Document CE25/2 and Corrigendum)

Establishment of a Working Party

The SECRETARY gave an explanation of Document CE25/2 on this topic and read the Director's letter of transmittal included therein.

The CHAIRMAN stated that this was the most important topic to be considered by the Executive Committee and, in accordance with proposals made during the discussion just held, suggested that a working party composed of the Representatives of Colombia, Haiti, and the United States be appointed to study this document and report thereon to the Committee within a reasonable time.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) suggested that the Representative of Paraguay also serve on this working party.

The SECRETARY announced that information concerning UNICEF Executive Board allocations and estimates of future UNICEF participation requirements in 1955 and 1956 had been received after Document CE25/2 had been prepared, and that this additional information had been incorporated in a corrigendum. He stated that the document in question should therefore be examined together with its corrigendum.

The CHAIRMAN invited all representatives and observers present to take part in the deliberations of the working party, since he felt that this would aid greatly in the study of the topic.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to establish a working party composed of the Representatives of Colombia, Haiti, Paraguay, and the United States to study Document CE25/2 and Corrigendum, and to present a report thereon to the Committee.

TOPIC 5: FINANCIAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE AUDITOR FOR 1954 (Document CE25/4)

The SECRETARY reported on Document CE25/4.

The CHAIRMAN observed that on previous occasions, when the Committee had deemed it necessary, the Financial Report and the Report of the Auditor had been studied by a working party.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) pointed out that there was no longer sufficient time to study the topic thoroughly at that morning's session and therefore suggested that, if the Director of the Bureau had any additional information not appearing in Document CE25/4, he might present it at that session but that the detailed study of the topic should be postponed until the following day.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) seconded the proposal of the Representative of Argentina as regards a verbal statement to be made by the Director. He recalled that, at the 19th and 20th Meetings of the Executive Committee, a working party had been appointed to study the Financial Report and the Auditor's Report, adding that the same procedure could be followed on this occasion. He proposed that the Representatives of Argentina, Brazil, and Colombia make up the working party.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) felt that the suggestions made by the Representatives of Argentina and Haiti were, in general, pertinent. However, the document under consideration was primarily a technical one and, in addition, of a legal character, since it represented the Auditor's certification concerning the utilization of budget funds. The Auditor's opinion was thus the substance of the document. Had the Auditor found any discrepancies between the budget allotments authorized by the governing bodies of the Organization and their use, he would have stated them in his Report. This is the Bureau's safeguard as regards the management of funds, the correctness of which, in practice, has never been doubted. The speaker did not believe the Executive Committee had sufficient technical ability to enter into a detailed examination of the background that led to the Auditor's Report. Another auditor would have to be appointed to study this Auditor's Report. The really important matter for the Executive Committee to consider in great detail was the Proposed Program and Budget, for it presents the programs to be carried out in the various countries, the distribution of funds, etc.

Dr. Hurtado went on to say that, two years ago, the Auditor had made certain recommendations regarding the accounting system of the Bureau, and the Bureau had carried out these recommendations. Therefore, what the Executive Committee should do at this time was to take note of the Report presented by the Auditor.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) agreed with the remarks of the Observer for Cuba. He felt that the establishment of a working party to study the Report was not necessary and that the recommendations presented by the Auditor should be studied in plenary

session. He stated that, if the proposal of the Representative of Haiti were approved, he would request to be excluded from the working party, as he preferred to devote his attention to the Proposed Program and Budget, in the working party to which he had already been assigned.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) also believed that the establishment of a working party was unnecessary. He proposed that the detailed discussion of this topic be postponed to the following morning's plenary session, so that the representatives might have sufficient time to study carefully Document CE25/4.

The CHAIRMAN observed that, since contradictory opinions had been expressed, it might be advisable to have the Director make whatever additional verbal statement he deemed pertinent, whereupon it could be decided whether a working party should be established to study these two reports.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) referred to the proposals he had made at the beginning of the discussion on this topic. He pointed out that the document under consideration had already been studied by the representatives of the various countries, and that it was not necessary to examine it point by point. What the Members of the Committee should do was to raise any points or make any observations the Auditor's Report might suggest to them and request whatever explanations they deemed necessary. He therefore repeated his request that the Director present whatever supplementary statement he might wish to make, and that the comments of the representatives be postponed until the afternoon session.

The CHAIRMAN asked the Director to give whatever explanations he might deem advisable on Document CE25/4.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that the document showed the financial situation of the Bureau, which he considered highly satisfactory. The situation had changed considerably during the past year, thanks to the receipt of a large amount of quota arrearages, which for the first time, in 1954, had permitted the Bureau to spend almost exactly the same amount as had been budgeted, while also leaving an important surplus. In addition, a voluntary contribution of 1,500,000 pesos had been received from the Government of Argentina. The Director pointed out that, in the future, the same possibilities of receiving such quota arrearages would no longer exist. He recalled that the part of the Director's Financial Report pertaining to utilization of funds had been certified by the Auditor, who is also the

Auditor of the WHO. The services of the same Auditor are used because the Bureau administers funds of both the Pan American Sanitary Organization and the World Health Organization.

Dr. Soper called attention to paragraphs 6, 7, and 8 of the Auditor's Report, and stated that the point at issue was one that merited further discussion, since there is a difference between the attitude of the PASB and that of certain other international organizations whose attitude served as the basis of the Auditor's observations.

He said that the entire financial life of the Bureau depends upon the payment, in dollars, of the quotas of the Member States, as far as the Pan American Sanitary Organization is concerned, and in dollars or Swiss francs, as far as the WHO quotas are concerned. In the Americas, the problem of currency exchange rates is relatively simple, since almost all the countries now have a free market. Moreover, the Bureau's action is in accord with specific articles in agreements with individual governments. The problem confronting the WHO in other regions is quite different. After discussing the matter with the Director of the Bureau, the Auditor recommended that the Director study the problem.

The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the proposal of the Representative of Argentina to postpone the discussion of Topic 5.

It was agreed to postpone the discussion of Topic 5.

The CHAIRMAN then placed before the Committee the proposal of the Representative of Haiti that a working party be established to study Document CE25/4.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) felt that the Representative of Haiti, in calling for the establishment of a working party, had misinterpreted the proposal of the Representative of Argentina.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) stated that he had proposed the establishment of a working party because in the Report of the Auditor certain problems were set forth that merited thorough study. The Director of the Bureau had referred to paragraph 6 of this Report. Moreover, there were points on pages 27, 29, and 30 that deserved to be clarified by the Administration of the Bureau or by the Director. He reiterated his proposal that the matter be studied by a working party and that a report later be presented to the Executive Committee.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) pointed out that all the Members of the Committee shared an equal interest in Document CE25/4 and that the working party could not adequately reflect all of their opinions. He insisted that the matter be studied by the Committee in plenary session.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) stressed the importance of the topic, and also felt that it should be taken up at a plenary session of the Committee, without the establishment of a working party.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) explained that the working party would in no way replace the Executive Committee in the examination of the problem. On the contrary, the working party would facilitate the discussion, inasmuch as it would state the problem in the form of a series of recommendations that would later be studied by the Committee in plenary session. This had been the procedure on previous occasions.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) agreed with the Representatives of Argentina and Paraguay.

The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the proposal of the Representative of Haiti, whereby a working party would be established to study Document CE25/4, a proposal that was rejected by a majority vote.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the discussion of Topic 5 would be continued at the morning session the following day.

The SECRETARY announced that the Minister of Public Health and Welfare of Mexico would receive the Members of the Executive Committee and the observers at 12:30 p. m.

The session was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

PRECIS MINUTES OF THE SECOND PLENARY SESSION

Mexico, D.F.

Monday, 25 April 1955, at 3:15 p.m.

<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr. Alberto BISSOT, Jr.	Panama
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u>	Dr. Lucien PIERRE-NOEL	Haiti
<u>Secretary:</u>	Dr. Miguel E. BUSTAMANTE	Pan American Sanitary Bureau

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TOPIC 8: REPORT ON PROPORTIONATE PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION OF BUDGET FUNDS (1951-1954) (Document CE25/10 and Corrigendum)

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) explained that, in Volume I of the documentation distributed to the Members of the Executive Committee, there appeared, under index 10, the document prepared by the Secretariat on this topic. He called attention to the fact that Table III replaced the table of the same number that had originally appeared in Document CE25/10 (page 7).

In giving the background of the topic, he recalled that the matter had arisen at the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference, when the Delegation of Chile requested the Director of the Bureau to supply data concerning the proportionate distribution of funds, by major groups of activities. The Conference had referred the matter to the 24th Meeting of the Executive Committee, which recommended that the Director prepare a report on the proportionate distribution of the funds administered by the Bureau in accordance with its various administrative and technical activities, in such a form that a comparison could be made between the expenses of previous years and those proposed for future programs. In complying with this recommendation by preparing the document now presented, the Director had sought to make the information fulfill two objectives. On the one hand, it was designed to permit an easy comparison between the actual expenditures in the years 1952 to 1954 and the budgeted amounts for 1955 and 1956, according to the various financial sources; that is, the budget of the Bureau itself, the part that was assigned to the Region of the Americas in the regular program of the World Health Organization and in the Technical Assistance Program of the United Nations, and the amounts coming under the heading of extra-budgetary funds. On the other hand, it was designed to permit an easy comparison of the funds spent or budgeted in a given year, by the various groups of activities.

With regard to Table I of the document under discussion, Dr. González called the Committee's attention to the item listed as United Nations Technical Assistance, pointing out that in 1952 the actual expenditures were considerably higher than those of 1951, while 1953 saw a decrease, which became more noticeable in 1954. These figures reflected the fluctuations that had taken place in the United Nations Technical Assistance Program.

He pointed out that Table II gave a summary of actual expenditures, by year, between 1952 and 1954, and of budgeted amounts for 1955 and 1956, in accordance with the classification of activities established by the Executive Committee. This table was prepared in the same way as that appearing on page 11 of the Proposed Program and Budget of the Bureau for 1956 (Document CE25/2).

He then referred to Table III, which summarized the field activities in accordance with the classification generally used in budgetary documents. In this connection, he called attention to the figures for Malaria and Insect Control, which represented, in relation to the total expenditures for field activities: 14.4% in 1952; 13.1% in 1953; 13.6% in 1954; and, for the years 1955 and 1956, a budgeted 14.2%. He mentioned the constant increase in the activities grouped under the heading of Public Health Administration, which represented 15% in 1952 and rose to 30.5% budgeted for 1956. He added that the apparent decrease in the amounts allotted to activities classified under other headings, such as Health Education of the Public, Maternal and Child Health, and others, was explained by the progressive incorporation of these activities within the integrated public health programs.

He then called attention to Table IV, in which the field activities of the Bureau were classified in two major groups: "Operational" Activities and "Educational" Activities. Both of these, in turn, were subdivided into two groups: Communicable Diseases and Promotion of Physical and Mental Health. The proportion of funds assigned to "Operational" Activities was: 65.5% in 1952; 64.7% in 1953; 63.4% in 1954; and a budgeted 66.4% for 1955 and 66.4% for 1956. "Educational" Activities represented: 34.5% in 1952; 35.3% in 1953; 36.6% in 1954; and an estimated 33.6% for both 1955 and 1956. With respect to Communicable Diseases, they represented: 52.9% in 1952; 47.4% in 1953; and 45.3% in 1954; and the budgeted amounts for 1955 and 1956 are 46.4% and 43.8%, respectively. Those activities related to Promotion of Physical and Mental Health represented the following proportions: 47.1% in 1952; 52.6% in 1953; 54.7% in 1954; 53.6% in 1955; and 56.2% in 1956.

Dr. González pointed out that it was difficult to make a clear distinction between "Operational" Activities and "Educational" Activities, inasmuch as both aspects played a part in all the activities of the Bureau. He added that, as the final part of Document CE25/10 showed, the main final objective of all the activities of the PASB/WHO was the strengthening of national health services, whether the activities were directed toward control or eradication of insect vectors or of communicable diseases, improvement of environmental sanitation, development of a system for local health services, improvement of nutrition, dissemination of technical information, assistance to educational institutions, provision of fellowships to public health personnel, or related activities.

Dr. BRADY (United States) took it that it was not yet known what the UNICEF funds for this Hemisphere would be, and therefore

the Bureau was wise in not including estimates of these funds in the table under discussion. On the other hand, the Committee was accustomed to examining the budget in its entirety, including estimates of UNICEF funds. For this reason he found comparison with previous documents of this nature difficult.

Under "Other Extra-Budgetary Funds", he said that there was a considerable reduction from 1955 to 1956, amounting to approximately \$200,000, and that he would appreciate an indication as to the causes of this decrease.

With respect to Table II, it was indicated that the funds for programs in 1955 would attain 53%, which was an unprecedented increase. However, the percentage of funds for programs in 1956 would not be as large. That decreased percentage was accounted for in the figures, which were about \$200,000 less in 1955 than in 1956, and the latter amount was possibly related to his previous question.

According to Table III, as pointed out, percentagewise the amount going to Public Health Administration continued to increase, though at the expense of certain concrete programs, such as Venereal Diseases, Tuberculosis, and Health Education of the Public.

Today, he said, the trend in public health was to classify health activities under Public Health Administration, rather than under categories. He pointed out that there was a certain danger in this because, if the movement continued in that direction, a table such as the one under discussion would, in a few more years, contain only two or three items, all relating to Public Health Administration, with no specific items referring to venereal diseases, tuberculosis, or malaria. This trend certainly had not escaped the attention of the Director.

Referring to the first item in Table III, Malaria and Insect Control, he stated that the actual amount had decreased between 1955 and 1956, and the percentage also showed a slight decrease. He expressed some surprise that, in spite of the additional \$100,000 made available to the Bureau in 1955 and an equal increase in the budget for 1956, and with the emphasis being given to malaria, the amount of monies identifiable for malaria control activities should show a decrease.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) stated that the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau had scrupulously carried out the instructions received from the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference, which met in Chile six months ago. From the information in the

document prepared by the Secretariat, it would be possible to draw conclusions of great importance for the future progress of the Pan American Sanitary Organization.

Referring to Table I, he said that it made no mention of the funds that may be received from UNICEF, but did include relative estimates of United Nations Technical Assistance funds, which may not be confirmed in fact.

He pointed out that for Public Health Administration much higher amounts were assigned than for such items as Endemo-epidemic Diseases and Malaria and Insect Control. He also called attention to the considerable sums allotted to the Zone Offices, as the result of the decentralization policy. On this subject, Dr. Hurtado felt that the decentralization had perhaps been carried too far, and he feared that the expansion of the Zone Offices might be prejudicial to the efficiency essential in the Headquarters services. He also expressed surprise at the considerable increase in the item for Nursing, and he believed the Pan American Sanitary Bureau should define more concretely the policy that it intended to follow in this field of health activities.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) said he was pleased at the interest that this document had aroused. In reply to the questions raised by the Representative of the United States, he said that the text of the document under discussion stated that the analysis had not taken into account either the funds that were assigned or may be assigned in the future by the UNICEF Executive Board for supplies and equipment for international public health programs, subject to the approval and technical supervision of PASB/WHO, or the funds administered by the Bureau on behalf of the Member Governments for the purchase of supplies and equipment. With respect to the comment of the United States Representative to the effect that against "Other Extra-Budgetary Funds" there was a reduction of approximately \$200,000 from 1955 to 1956, he explained that this was due to the fact that it was difficult at this time to estimate the amount of the extra-budgetary funds that might be available in 1956. He added that the figure of \$395,997 given for 1955 included funds that might possibly not all be spent this year and that the balance would therefore be carried over to 1956. Concerning the comment on the reduction in the percentage assigned to field programs in 1956, as it appears in Table II, he said that this was explained by the fact that in that year an increase was expected in the expenditures in other budgetary groups. He recalled that the Directing Council meeting in 1956 would be held away from Washington, which would entail additional expenditure. Dr. González added that, usually,

in even years, the expenditure necessary to cover home leave was greater than in odd years. Concerning another comment of the United States Representative, he said that the percentage reduction in the amount allocated to Tuberculosis in Table III was only an apparent one, since tuberculosis formed part of the integrated programs included under Public Health Administration. He again explained how difficult it was to determine precisely which activities could be considered as "Educational", and which as "Operational". He mentioned specifically the case of the program entitled Panama-1, in which the two types of activities were complementary and were carried out side by side under one program, the aim of which was to assist the Government in strengthening its national programs and in training personnel within the country and abroad.

Replying to a comment by the Representative of Cuba, Dr. González explained that the amount assigned for administrative expenses could not be reduced below a certain level without impairing the efficiency of the activities of the Bureau. However, the present administrative machinery was capable of handling more field activities if more funds were to become available. With respect to the observations made concerning Malaria and Insect Control, he said that Dr. Soper would surely wish to comment personally on the matter. For the moment he would merely point out that Table III included for 1955 the \$100,000 voted by the Conference, and that in 1956 the budgeted sum included the \$100,000 that the Conference authorized as an increase in the Proposed Budget. The increase in the funds assigned to Nursing was the result of the growing interest being shown by several governments in nursing programs.

Dr. GARCIA SANCHEZ (Observer, Mexico) stated that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, in the matter of decentralization, had acted in accordance with the policy laid down at previous meetings. He stressed the importance of nursing at this time, adding that no public health program was possible without the assistance of nurses. No allotment for Social and Occupational Health appeared for the years following 1952, but this was explained by the fact that the funds assigned to this activity had been included in another program. Dr. García Sánchez considered that social health work had not yet been given the stimulus it merited.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that the reduction of the amounts shown against Malaria should not be interpreted as due to lack of interest in the eradication program, and that before the close of the meeting of the Executive Committee he would have occasion to furnish detailed information on the present situation and on plans for the future.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) stated that, in his opinion, the policy of decentralization of the Bureau was a necessary one, and that the ultimate aim should be to have, one day, a representative of the corresponding Zone Office in every country. He said that any amount that might be assigned for Nursing would always appear small to him, for there was no health campaign that did not require the services of nurses. He spoke of the need for granting the nurse the professional standing that she deserved. With respect to the comments made on the expenditure on administration, he said that the situation in his country might perhaps serve to clarify this point: The number of contributors to the Social Security Fund of Paraguay was small at the present time; if their number were to increase, the services could be expanded without any need to increase administrative expenses.

Dr JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) said he was convinced of the need for the Bureau to stimulate and strengthen the health education program. He shared the views of the Representative of Paraguay on the subject of nurses, and stressed the work done by the Bureau in Colombia in the field of nursing education, through the Advanced School of Hygiene. He also felt that the decentralization program should be intensified and, in support of this view, mentioned the services that were being rendered to the countries by the Zone representatives. Finally, he noted that the item for Mental Health did not appear in 1956.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) believed it should be made clear that the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau had duly carried out the recommendation of the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference, and that the Committee should adopt a decision to that effect. He recognized the difficulty of establishing a clear distinction between "Educational" and "Operational" activities, and he felt that the Zone Offices were useful and necessary. The Zone representatives acted with a direct knowledge of the countries, something that a representative sent from Headquarters to deal with specific problems or situations could hardly do.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) said that the most appropriate time to discuss the matters now being mentioned would be during the discussion of the budget. He proposed that the Director be congratulated on the prompt and accurate presentation of the report requested by the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference, and that the Committee take note of the said report and transmit it to the Directing Council for discussion at its next meeting. He stressed that the Director of the Bureau had not deviated from the main objective of the Organization, as set forth on page 4 of the document under discussion.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) said that at no time had he expressed opposition to the document. On the contrary, he fully acknowledged that the Director of the Bureau had complied with the proposal made by the Delegation of Chile at the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference. Nor did the speaker oppose the policy of decentralization, on which subject he said that he would make certain comments at the appropriate time. He praised the work of nurses, saying that he would gladly take part in any tribute made to the nurse, not only through conviction but for sentimental reasons as well, for his own mother had been a nurse. He recalled also that the School of Nursing of Panama had been founded by Cuban nurses in 1909.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) stated that, at the XIV Conference, divergent opinions had been expressed on the policy of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, a fact that led the Delegation of Argentina to propose the establishment of a working party to reconcile the differences of opinion. The proposal was not approved, but in the course of the discussion the statements made by the Representatives of El Salvador and Chile were particularly noteworthy. It was as the result of the motion of Chile that the document now under discussion was prepared by the Director of the Bureau, which document the speaker considered to be an excellent reference work. He suggested that the discussion be suspended at this time and resumed at a meeting of the Directing Council, at which the Representatives of Chile and El Salvador and of all the Member Countries would be present.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB), replying to the questions raised by the Representative of Colombia, emphasized the interest taken by the Bureau in programs of training and health education. He repeated that the reductions under the headings of Mental Health and Nutrition are more apparent than real. The 1955 and 1956 figures for activities in the field of nutrition represented only estimates, and there was a possibility that a larger amount of extra-budgetary funds might be available for such work. He concluded by affirming that the Bureau worked in close collaboration with the governments and adjusted its programs to meet their requests. If the governments expressed interest in other programs, the Bureau, faithful to its traditional policy, would accept and study their proposals with all the attention they merited.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) felt that the discussion had been profitable and said that, at an appropriate moment, he would reiterate the views he had expressed.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to take note of the report, to congratulate the Director of the Bureau on its presentation and content, and to transmit the report to the next meeting of the Directing Council.^{1/}

TOPIC 9: METHOD OF PREPARATION OF BUDGETS (Document CE25/8)

The SECRETARY read Document CE25/8.

Dr. BRADY (United States) had several questions regarding the proposed changes. The document spoke of the "text", the "schedule", and then the "narrative". He asked whether the "narrative" was the same as the "text", as used in paragraphs 1 and 2. These paragraphs contained three terms, the meaning of which was not clear. Paragraph 5 read as follows: "The details of travel and allowances will be eliminated from the project schedules." Yet, in the illustrative example given, travel was still included in the same form as in the present budget document. The speaker asked what was the nature of the proposed change on travel.

Mr. HINDERER (Chief, Division of Administration, PASB) explained that the term "text" was used in the widest sense of the word, referring to the explanation of projects, the letter of transmittal of the Director, the proposed resolution itself, etc. To illustrate the paragraph on travel and allowances, he used an example taken from page 87 of the budget document presented (Document CE25/2), an example applicable to any project. It could be seen from the example that "Allowances" was shown and was then broken down into the different types of allowances: project service, dependents, repatriation grant, pension fund, staff insurance. Likewise, "Travel and Transportation" was broken down into three parts: duty, initial recruitment, and home leave. The proposal was to eliminate this breakdown and to show one figure for travel and for allowances, as other organizations are now doing. The detailed information would always be available on request. This plan was devised only to save space, and the Administration did not feel strongly about adopting it.

Dr. BRADY (United States) accepted the proposed resolution appearing on pages 3 and 4 of the document, and proposed that it be adopted.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) supported the proposal of Dr. Brady.

^{1/}See Final Report of the 25th Executive Committee Meeting (Document CE25/42), Resolution I.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) felt that a possible saving of space was less important to the countries than a thorough knowledge of budgetary details. The budgets must be submitted to experts in administrative matters in the various countries so that they, in turn, might advise the representatives, and these experts could not be expected to render an opinion without having at their disposal all the necessary details. There could never be too many budgetary details, since they met a need for clarity and formed the backbone of a budget. It was true that detailed information could be asked for, but a loss of time, perhaps months, would result. He felt, therefore, that the practice followed up to now of showing the figures for travel and allowances should be continued.

The CHAIRMAN praised the Director and the personnel of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau on their work, which would result in a considerable saving for the Bureau. The proposed new style of presenting the budgets in a single volume was obviously advantageous from the point of view of clarity.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) referred to the size of the type used in printing the budget. Reducing the type would result in an appreciable saving, from the point of view both of the size of the publication and of shipping costs. The type used was sufficiently clear, but it would be inadvisable to reduce it further, because no document should be printed in a type difficult to read.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) found the sample of printing distributed during the meeting as an example of the style of presentation of the budget using the new type, to be satisfactory. He felt that the proposed changes appearing in Document CE25/8 should be approved, with the exception of the elimination of the details of travel and allowances. In this connection, he shared the view of Dr. Segura, feeling it necessary to retain the information concerning such expenditure.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) said that the sole purpose of the recommendation in item 5 was to save space, but that the Secretariat would be pleased to continue preparing the budget document with the details on estimates of travel and allowances, as heretofore.

The SECRETARY pointed out that the operative part of the proposed resolution appearing at the end of the document consisted of three points, and said that the Committee should express its views on each of them, so as to leave no doubt as to what was being approved.

The first paragraph of the operative part had not given rise to any comment. The second paragraph read as follows: "To approve the changes recommended by the Director in the style of presentation of the budget estimates". This was where the difficulty lay, because item 5 figured among the changes proposed by the Director.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) called attention to the fact that a proposal of the Representative of the United States was before the Committee, calling for approval of the document as it stood, and that this proposal was supported by the Representative of Paraguay. But if the Representative of the United States were willing to have item 5 withdrawn, the Representative of Paraguay would also have no objection, and the problem would be solved.

Dr. SCOPER (Director, PASB) said that there was no objection to withdrawing item 5, provided Dr. Brady was not opposed to this.

Dr. BRADY (United States) saw no need for withdrawing item 5, but said that he would accept the viewpoint of the other representatives.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) insisted that, since the Representative of the United States had put forward a proposal to approve the document in its original form, this proposal should be put to a vote.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) pointed out that it was Dr. Brady himself who had first called attention to item 5 but had later moved the approval of the proposed resolution as originally presented. Dr. Segura, on the other hand, had insisted that the details of travel and allowances should continue to be shown. If Dr. Soper withdrew item 5, the proposed resolution could be approved without change. The Director undoubtedly had the right to withdraw the item, just as the Committee had the right to leave it in, but, as it happened, the Executive Committee did not choose to do so, and, therefore, there was really no problem.

The CHAIRMAN said that eliminating item 5 from the document depended on Dr. Brady. If a representative expressed the desire to retain an item, the Director should respect the opinion of that representative and should not withdraw an item that had been officially presented, without the previous consent of that representative.

Dr. BRADY (United States) accepted the elimination of the item.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) proposed that, in view of the position of the Representative of the United States, the document be approved without item 5.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained that, whether or not item 5 were accepted, the decision would have no effect on the amount of work called for by the preparation of the document. The difference involved was the amount of detail required, and this could be considered merely as a problem of publication. The calculations must be made in any case, whether or not the details were published.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) felt that if the Director withdrew item 5 there would be no need for a vote. The question had arisen with regard to item 5. If item 5 were not to appear in the document, there would be complete agreement with regard to the other items.

The CHAIRMAN explained that what Dr. Segura had proposed was, in the main, that the practice followed up to now in the presentation of details of travel and allowances be continued. The Director was willing to withdraw item 5, and Dr. Brady accepted its elimination. The proposal of Argentina was therefore still before the Committee.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) felt it advisable to simplify the problem, and said that this could be done merely by adding to the second paragraph of the operative part the fact that the Committee had approved the document, with the exception of item 5.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) suggested that, in view of the explanations given, a vote be taken on the motion with the amendment proposed by the Representative of Haiti.

The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the motion, with the amendment proposed by the Representative of Haiti and seconded by the Representative of Brazil.

DECISION TAKEN

The proposed resolution, with the amendment presented by the Representative of Haiti, was unanimously approved.^{2/}

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

^{2/} Ibid., Resolution II.

PRECIS MINUTES OF THE THIRD PLENARY SESSION

Mexico, D.F.

Tuesday, 26 April 1955, at 10:15 a.m.

<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr. Alberto BISSOT Jr.	Panama
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u>	Dr. Lucien PIERRE-NOEL	Haiti
<u>Secretary:</u>	Dr. Miguel E. BUSTAMANTE	Pan American Sanitary Bureau

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TOPIC 5: FINANCIAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE AUDITOR
FOR 1954 (Document CE25/4) (Conclusion)

The CHAIRMAN, after calling the session to order, reopened the discussion of Topic 5. After a brief discussion, it was agreed to begin with the study of the Financial Report of the Director and then to take up the Report of the External Auditor.

Dr. BRADY (United States) said that he had a number of comments to make on this document. In considering the Financial Report of the Director, he noted that the External Auditor had stated the following in his report: "The strict controls and methods used by the Bureau in operating the budget have made this extremely fine result possible." In the same paragraph the Auditor added: "I must pay tribute to such a successful management of the budget." Dr. Brady said that the United States Government agreed entirely with the External Auditor's statement, and that it congratulated the Director on his Financial Report.

He went on to say that there were a number of items which he would like to have clarified. In Exhibit III, under Capital Assets, the value of the buildings in Washington was shown as \$511,495. He said he would be interested in knowing how this figure was arrived at, whether it was an assessment made by the Bureau or an estimate made by an outside source, and whether it represented the actual cost of the buildings plus the improvements completed to date. He said it was important for the Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations to know on what basis this figure was arrived at. In the same Exhibit, under Cash in Banks and on Hand, one amount was shown for dollar currency and another of approximately \$90,000 for other currencies. The speaker asked whether the latter were convertible currencies or whether they were currencies that the Bureau would have difficulty in using in its program.

In Schedule C, he said, there was a table showing investments as of 31 December 1954, the total of investments being something over one million dollars. He noted that these investments had cost more than their present value, adding that there was probably a good explanation for this fact. Perhaps the Bureau had received interest or something of the sort to account for the difference, but the schedule, as presented, showed that the Bureau had lost \$3,000.

With reference to Schedule D, on the Emergency Procurement Revolving Fund, the speaker congratulated the Government of Haiti on the reimbursement of the loan made to that country at the time of the disaster caused by the hurricane Hazel.

Dr. Brady noted that Schedule E showed the details of the Procurement Fund, the column at the far right listing cash deposits of the Member Countries on hand with the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

and the column immediately before that showing amounts owing to the Bureau. At first glance, there appeared to be a discrepancy, but he felt sure there must be a good explanation for this. There were six items which showed that the respective countries had more money on deposit than they owed the Bureau. It would surely be assumed that if a country had money on deposit with the Bureau, it would no longer be indebted to the Bureau.

He then referred to the table in Schedule F, on Special Funds, which showed the status of expenditures for smallpox eradication. At the end of 1954, the Director still had available an unobligated amount of \$181,000 for this purpose. He felt that perhaps the Director should be asked what he proposed to do in this connection during the current year. Part of these funds had been available for several years, and the total expenditures to date were in the neighborhood of \$30,000, leaving a balance of \$181,000. He therefore felt that, since the funds were available, perhaps smallpox eradication activities could be increased.

Schedule H, he continued, showed the technical assistance funds from the Organization of American States. He wished to ask some questions concerning these funds. However, since his questions were not entirely of a financial nature, he felt that, unless some other representative wished to discuss the subject now, he could wait until the working party meeting that afternoon, before discussing some of the program aspects of the use of technical assistance funds from the Organization of American States.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) suggested that the Director might reply to each point as it was raised, so as to facilitate the discussion.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that Mr. Hinderer would reply to some of the questions raised by the United States Representative.

Mr. HINDERER (Chief, Division of Administration, PASB) said that in Exhibit III of the Financial Report, the \$511,495 listed as the value of the buildings in Washington represented the exact cost of the buildings plus all the improvements made in these buildings up to 31 December 1954. All of the improvements had been approved by the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations appointed by the Directing Council.

As to the question of whether the "Other Currencies", listed in Exhibit III, under Cash in Banks and on Hand, were convertible or not, he said that these were currencies of countries in which there is a Zone Office and would be used in the operation of those Zone Offices. They were, therefore, readily convertible through the Organization and would be expended for the activities of the said Offices.

Referring to Schedule C, Mr. Hinderer said there were two different types of investments: the first two items (U.S. Treasury Certificates of Indebtedness maturing 17 May 1955, and U.S. Treasury Bills maturing 3 February 1955) represented a type of investment whose value grew as time went on. The first item, Treasury Certificates, had increased in value by \$156 by 31 December and would increase further by 17 May at the rate of 1-1/8% interest. With respect to the Treasury Bills, these were convertible on 3 February and were cashed on that date for slightly more than \$399,000, at the rate of 1.02% interest. He felt that the item which would probably cause confusion was that relating to the long-term U.S. Treasury Notes maturing 15 December 1955, on which date they would be worth \$503,906.25 plus an annual interest of 1-3/4%. He said he did not know where the Auditor had obtained the market value on these Notes, but could state that the Notes would be worth the amount mentioned on the maturing date. If the Notes were sold before maturity, they would not bring in more than the market value. He assured those present that the Notes would be kept until maturity and there would thus be a considerable profit on this investment. As regards the market value of the Mexico Telephone Stock, this was calculated on the basis of the par value, but if the stock were placed on the market today it would undoubtedly bring in at least \$1,743. This was really a deposit to obtain telephone service and equipment, but since it was also a stock it could be considered an investment as well.

Finally, with respect to Schedule E, Procurement Funds, the table shows which countries have already made deposits with the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. It should be remembered that there are 135 to 140 accounts, since some countries have five or six accounts with the Bureau. There is no general government account for each country. This explains why there may be several accounts for one country and why there are countries that still owe a balance to the Bureau even though they have deposited funds.

They represent different accounts. For example, the Ministry of Health of a country may open one account, a hospital under the jurisdiction of that Ministry may open another, and so on.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) suggested that the Assistant Director reply to the question of the United States Representative regarding the smallpox eradication campaign and the funds for that campaign.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) stated that he would not discuss in detail the general principles and working procedures established for the smallpox eradication program, as

they were well known from previous meetings of the governing bodies of the Organization. The annual investments for this program were \$11,126 in 1953, while in 1954, \$26,139 were obligated or expended. Thus far in 1955, an amount of \$11,900 had been expended or obligated. Added together, these amounts total \$49,165. He said that when the governing bodies of the Organization authorized the use of these special funds for the smallpox campaign they probably had a long-range program in mind, since the scope of the problem and the administrative difficulties involved were sufficient to exclude a short-range plan. So far, the greater part of the funds had been expended in joint activities with the governments with the aim of solving one of the most important problems: that of obtaining an effective vaccine, one adapted to the difficult conditions encountered in the tropics (temperature, transportation, etc.). The speaker explained that equipment had been furnished to various countries and fellowships granted to technicians from a number of nations for training in the most modern techniques used in production of vaccine, especially dry vaccine. In addition, a special consultant had been engaged to visit several countries and assist their specialists in the installation and utilization of equipment for vaccine production. Another problem, he continued, was that of collaboration with the governments in the establishment of systems that would permanently guarantee a level of protection against smallpox. Steps had been taken to assign special consultants to various countries for this purpose. Among these consultants, one was recently assigned to Cuba, and arrangements were made to cooperate with Colombia in a campaign of this kind. The plans for the future were, briefly, as follows: it was planned to aid various governments by supplying laboratory equipment, of an estimated value of \$44,000; it was calculated that the cost of sending consultants to various countries would be an additional \$44,000; fellowships would come to \$4,000, and vaccination equipment to \$8,000. These figures amounted in all to roughly \$104,000; adding these to the \$50,000 already expended, the total came to some \$150,000, leaving a balance of about \$65,000 for future activities. Dr. González added that the plan he had just outlined was scheduled for 1955-56, as it would be difficult to carry it out in 1955.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) stated that what he found most noteworthy in the Financial Report was the amount of cash on hand, or its equivalent, at the PASB. Exhibit III showed an amount of \$2,600,000 for Cash in Banks and on Hand, an amount higher than the contributions of all governments in one year. He then enumerated the various items of cash on hand, and wondered whether the existence of all these funds was necessary if at the same time requests were made for special contributions for campaigns, since the Bureau already had at hand so many resources with which to work. Apart from the Special Funds and Trust Funds, the existence

of the other funds meant that contributions were received at a faster rate than that at which the Bureau was equipped to utilize the funds. Therefore, he added, there might not be such urgency in requesting contributions. He insisted, moreover, on the utilization of the \$180,000 for the smallpox eradication campaign and of the \$100,000 for the antimalaria campaign, since, while new contributions were being requested for 1955 and 1956, unexpended sums remained in the special funds for these programs. He said that, if half a million dollars could be left inactive until December 1955 when the interest would fall due, there could be no urgent need to use this sum before that date. The Bureau, therefore, gave the impression that it had on hand too much money, which was delayed in being assigned to the various activities for which it was intended.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that, before he personally replied to some of the remarks, Mr. Hinderer would explain the utilization of reserve funds.

Mr. HINDERER (Chief, Division of Administration, PASB) explained that the only available funds that are not earmarked for some specific purpose are the \$239,000 of the General Fund and the \$1,200,000 of the Working Capital Fund. The purpose of the latter is to enable the Bureau to function during the first four, five, or six months of the year, until sufficient funds from the quota contributions of the Member Countries are received. He added that the Emergency Procurement Revolving Fund, established by the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference, is earmarked for specific purposes. This fund was fixed at the level of \$50,000, a level that has been restored by reimbursements from various countries that had received emergency aid. The Special Funds, Mr. Hinderer continued, include sums earmarked for building alterations that had been approved by the Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations and had already been completed but not yet paid for. The Special Funds also include an amount of \$6,542 for the translation of a book on public health administration, funds for the smallpox eradication program, an unpaid amount of \$5,000 for fellowships, \$100,000 assigned by the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference for malaria eradication, and the 1954 surplus, the utilization of which would be discussed later. The Trust Funds in the amount of \$584,071 were mainly for the operation of INCAP, for whose administration the Director of the Bureau is responsible. Under this item, in addition to the INCAP quotas paid by governments, there are included certain funds provided by such organizations as the Kellogg Foundation, Merck and Company, and other commercial organizations, for research in the field of nutrition. The item also includes repatriation entitlements for personnel of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, in accordance

with the Staff Rules. In the opinion of the Director, this represents money earned by the staff and should be set aside in escrow; this fund amounts to a little more than \$50,000. There is another amount of \$29,000 for the Provident Fund, which the Directing Council decided to discontinue and which has been repaid in full to the staff members, with the exception of several hundred dollars due to a staff member who is terminating his employment this year and prefers to remain in the Fund. This amount, therefore, has practically been eliminated. Finally, Item 6 (Organization of American States, Technical Assistance) includes the sum paid to the Bureau for the maintenance of the Pan American Aftosa Center in Rio de Janeiro, and this advance deposit for 1955 is not available for any other purpose.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) felt that the financial situation of the Bureau should be examined over a period of years and not merely up to 31 December 1954. He explained that he had attempted to retain only the necessary funds and that any available amount not specifically earmarked was placed each year in a special fund, to be used as decided by the Directing Council. At the beginning of each year, 60% of the amount of the budget is placed in the Working Capital Fund, to enable the Bureau to function until the contributions are received from the countries. This reserve is necessary because Bureau expenditures begin in January, but contributions are rarely received during that month. For example, the contribution of the United States, which represents the major portion of the Bureau's budget, is regularly received between July and August, but in one year it was not received until October. The Working Capital Fund was established precisely to ensure the execution of the Bureau's program. Aside from that 60%, no other readily available funds are maintained. Any surplus is placed in the fund whose use is specifically determined by the Directing Council. The Director felt that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau should approach its financial problems from the viewpoint of a period of years. As an example, he pointed out that at the end of 1954 the Bureau received almost one-half million dollars without having known beforehand when to expect these payments. On the other hand, the country quota contributions are closer to being up to date than at any time in the past. Thanks to this fact, the Bureau expenditures in 1954, for the first time, were almost as high as the total amount budgeted.

Referring to the smallpox eradication campaign, the Director stated that this campaign was entirely different from other programs that could be planned more leisurely, such as education programs. In the eradication program, the Bureau must be able to cooperate with each country at the time that country was in

a position to accept such collaboration. For example, six months ago, at the Conference in Santiago, a delegate of a Member Government had informed him that his country was willing to contribute a relatively large sum to the antimalaria program for 1955. However, the financial situation of the country later changed, owing to circumstances beyond its control, and it was not possible this year to increase these funds and to convert the control program into an eradication program. The Director stated that next week the Joint WHO/UNICEF Committee would meet in New York to discuss various questions relating to the participation of UNICEF in the eradication program. UNICEF plans to support the malaria eradication program in the Americas and, at the Bureau's suggestion, is willing to contribute fairly large sums to this program in the coming years. Finally, Dr. Soper expressed satisfaction at the financial situation of the Bureau as compared with that of other international organizations or with that of the Bureau itself in former years. He felt that the governments also should be satisfied at the rate of expenditure and the distribution of Bureau funds. No programs have ever been established without previously authorized funds, and the Directing Council has never been confronted with an emergency situation in which funds were needed to keep going a program already under way -- something that could not be said of certain other international organizations.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) stated that, in view of the explanations given, it might be advisable that the Director try to reduce the level of the Working Capital Fund to less than 60% of the budget, so as to avoid inactivating such a large sum of money, which might be used for the programs. Should quota receipts become irregular in future years, the Working Capital Fund could then be restored to its present level.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB), referring to Dr. Segura's suggestion, explained that using available funds to carry out programs was precisely what was intended. The suggestions for utilizing funds were designed to make use of any money in excess of what is considered necessary. He asked the Representatives to take into consideration the statements made previously: That the present financial situation of the PASB is good, thanks to the fact that the Bureau did not spend in past years all the funds it was authorized to spend, and that, over a certain period, it did not make expenditures. In 1948 budgetary authorizations amounted to \$1,300,000, and \$326,000 were spent; in 1949 \$786,000 of the \$1,700,000 budget were spent; and in 1950, of an authorized budget of \$1,750,000, about \$1,400,000 were spent. He pointed out that some governments (Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Mexico, Venezuela, and, recently, Argentina) had made

special contributions, which made the present situation possible. On the other hand, he thought that, generally speaking, it was not possible to take funds from the surplus of one year to make expenditures, without creating obligations for the following years. Only now was the Bureau in a position to spend all the funds authorized and, what is more, to make additional expenditures, but he did not feel that this was the proper time to modify the present program. In his opinion, it would be preferable to show a surplus at the end of the year, to be assigned for specific purposes, rather than to apply such funds immediately to programs, a procedure that might result in an excess of programs and in budgetary increases in future years.

Mr. HINDERER (Chief, Division of Administration, PASB) explained that, since the Bureau was responsible for the various special and trust funds and since banks in the United States guarantee deposits only up to \$10,000, the Director thought that the safest way of keeping funds for which the Bureau is responsible was to invest them in U. S. Government securities, which are guaranteed one hundred per cent. This accounted for the increase in the investments. Special and trust funds were also invested, in addition to the funds of the Pan American Sanitary Organization.

Dr. GARCIA SANCHEZ (Observer, Mexico) joined with Dr. Brady in congratulating the Director of the Bureau on the Financial Report he had presented. He pointed out, however, that the Report mentioned the existence of Field Offices in Jamaica and El Paso. He was familiar with the latter Office and believed it could be discontinued, inasmuch as its work deals basically with the organization of meetings of the United States-Mexico Border Public Health Association, a function that could be assigned to the Zone Office in Mexico. He raised this point merely with a view toward its future study. He also expressed his satisfaction at the fact that, during the past fiscal year, funds were transferred from Part II (Headquarters) to Part III (Field and Other Programs). This, he stated, showed the Bureau's interest in expanding the field activities. Referring to the eradication of malaria, he pointed out that Mexico had not been in agreement with the members of the Bureau with respect to the technical aspects of the eradication. He thought it a regrettable fact that thousands of smallpox cases still occurred in the Americas, when the Bureau had funds available for the eradication campaign, funds which he believed should be spent in reducing existing foci. He urged that a way be found to bring the viewpoints of the various countries into harmony with that of the PASB with respect to the problem of smallpox eradication.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that the smallpox problem had been considered as of great importance, and that a number of

decisions had been taken, rightly or wrongly, regarding the PASB activities in this respect. If we consider the fact that smallpox has been a problem from the time of Jenner until the present, we find repeatedly the history of epidemics of smallpox followed by what we might term "epidemics of vaccination", with the disappearance of smallpox, from the statistics at least, in many of the areas where the campaigns have not been undertaken. Many years ago, in the Philippine Islands, there was a striking demonstration of this pattern, following the occupation of these Islands by the United States. At that time a campaign of vaccination was undertaken, with the result that the disease practically disappeared from the Islands. Some years later, this campaign was relaxed and, as a consequence, some time before 1930 there was another severe outbreak. We must believe that there is not a great deal to be contributed by the PASB in the financing of campaigns that are simply a repetition of the type of campaigns so often carried out. In analysing what has happened with regard to smallpox, we have found instances in which severe outbreaks have occurred because of the non-antigenicity of the vaccine used. As recently as 1925 or 1926, for example, there was an outbreak of smallpox in Rio de Janeiro, with some 2,500 deaths. We have felt that, if a permanent contribution is to be made to the solution of the smallpox problem, it is very important to develop and use a satisfactory vaccine that can be expected to withstand a normal period without refrigeration in the tropical countries. We have also considered it important to develop a program on a permanent basis, with some understanding of what is required for the protection of a given area on such a permanent basis of organization. In addition, he considered it important to develop, for example, a minimum-budget program for a given region, but with a uniform expenditure of money over the years. He wondered what was the minimum program needed to keep the Americas free from smallpox, by making uniform expenditures from year to year and avoiding entirely the large expenditures required for the control of an actual outbreak. He asked if it would be possible, with a small group of workers and with a cycle of visits to a given area once every five or six years, to keep the countries free from smallpox. What populations must be protected once the Continent is freed from smallpox? In the case of Chile, for example, we find that some years ago the national authorities were advised of the fairly heavy incidence of smallpox in Peru, and measures were taken requiring all ships coming from the north to enter a certain port in northern Peru. All the inhabitants of this port were vaccinated, so that there was no possibility of the virus going by sea to Peru. This measure was apparently successful, but in the meantime smallpox had appeared in the interior of Chile, having come presumably from Argentina. Even if Argentina had been free from smallpox at the time, the vaccination of the rural population of both countries would have been advisable.

He thought that the Bureau can and should take the lead in developing this type of study and this type of program. Would it not be possible, once all the countries of Central America, for example, are free of smallpox, to protect them by the vaccination of, let us say, only the urban population? There was a definite need for promoting information on, and the development of, programs on a trial basis, apart from the type of program in which Mexico had been so greatly interested a few years ago.

With regard to the reports that have been cited, according to which many cases of smallpox have occurred in certain areas, Dr. Soper felt that attention should be called to the fact that there have been, in certain cases, political situations making it difficult for a given country, at a given time, to carry out country-wide vaccination programs. He also emphasized that much of the smallpox reported today is of the alastrim type, which does not give rise to the same interest within the country as that aroused by the deadly type of smallpox. He added that the apparent delay in the use of the funds assigned to combat smallpox should be attributed in large measure to the fact that the Bureau is not a free agency, but one that always works in a given country, through and with the collaboration of the governmental authorities. He related what had occurred some years ago between the Bureau and Mexico, with regard to the latter's proposals. The technical representatives of the Bureau had held certain ideas, the Mexican officials had maintained certain other ideas, and there was no effective collaboration at the time. We have been proud, Dr. Soper said, to watch the work done in Mexico for the eradication of smallpox, as an example that should be followed. But we did not feel that, with the small amount of money we had at that time, or even with the amount we now have available, the Bureau should place primary emphasis on the control of outbreaks. The Bureau's objective has been to develop for all the Americas a long-term campaign with a satisfactory vaccine for use in tropical areas, and with a permanent program under the direction of the countries concerned. The Director expressed satisfaction at the fact that this matter had come up, because he felt it reflected what the basic collaboration and participation of the Bureau should be.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) said that on few occasions had the Financial Report of the Director been discussed in such detail. The Report merited the approval of the Members of the Committee. Referring to the comments of Dr. Segura on the decrease in the level of the Working Capital Fund, he thought that it would be dangerous to introduce innovations in the financial policies of the Bureau. He believed the financial situation of the Bureau to be an enviable one. The establishment of the Working Capital Fund was an inspired idea; it was this Fund that gave the Organization its vitality and assured its existence. He recalled the Bureau's situation prior to

the establishment of the Pan American Sanitary Organization, during which period it carried on work which, although dynamic, was limited because of meager financial resources. One point of concern to the Representative of Argentina, was the investment of Bureau funds in U. S. Treasury bonds. Both the Director and Mr. Hinderer had clearly explained the reason for such investments, which were in the form of solid securities. Concerning the eradication of smallpox, Dr. Hurtado shared the opinion of the Observer for Mexico and thought that by now such eradication should be within sight. It was indeed shameful that epidemic smallpox foci should still exist in the Americas. Somewhere, he said, there was a failure, and it was necessary to reorganize the system. He suggested that the experts of the Americas should study the problem, since the results achieved were not commensurate with the efforts made.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) agreed with Dr. Hurtado, in regard to the Financial Report of the Director, and thought that the Bureau should be congratulated. The fact that the countries were paying their quota arrearages indicated their confidence in the financial policy of the Bureau.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) pointed out that, when Mr. Hinderer referred to the cash in banks under the heading of trust funds, he inadvertently failed to mention the fact that, of that amount \$450,000 represented funds advanced by the governments for purchases against their accounts, as shown in Schedule E.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) asked for a clarification on the item of travelling expenses, in the various Parts of the budget, which appear in the Summary of 1954 Expenditures on page 6 of Document CE25/4. On the other hand, he seconded the motion of the Representative of Paraguay that the Bureau be congratulated on the financial policy reflected in the Report submitted.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) pointed out that one of the most important functions of the Bureau centered about the movement of technical staff from country to country and that, at times, the difficulty from the organizational viewpoint resided in ensuring that the staff had sufficient time to make the necessary trips. Generally speaking, he thought that the money spent on well-planned and carefully considered travel by the technical staff was the most essential item of expenditure in the Organization. The technician sitting at a desk and dealing with paper work only, he said, tended to gain an impression of field activities limited by the four walls about him.

Mr. HINDERER (Chief, Division of Administration) regretted that he did not have available the exact data on the amounts attributable to each type of travel. He explained that under the

heading "travel", there were entered all regular travelling expenses, such as those of consultants, as well as of all personnel when first hired and brought to the Bureau, and when leaving the Organization and returning to their place of origin. It also included, he went on, travel on home leave, travel and subsistence of representatives to the Executive Committee, travel and subsistence of temporary staff, and transportation of personal effects in all cases of personnel entering and leaving the Organization. The working party on the Proposed Program and Budget would find, he said, a schedule showing a breakdown of all this travel expenditure, the amounts chargeable to each project, to each Headquarters division and to each Zone Office.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) wished to make clear, in order to avoid all possible misunderstandings, that his former statement had not been correctly interpreted by the Observer for Cuba. In the first place, he said, he had been fully aware of the advantages derived from the fact that the Organization invested funds in U.S. Treasury bonds. His attention had not been attracted by the mere fact, but by the amount so invested; in the second place, he would by no means, like to see his observations construed as a suggestion that the percentage of the budget corresponding to the level of the Working Capital Fund be modified. He had simply felt it might be advantageous for the Director to consider the possibility, taking into account the results of the next few years of reducing that percentage. Finally, he stated, Argentina was far from presenting any objections to the Financial Report submitted by the Director, and, on the contrary, was approving it completely. His only intention had been to comment on it, in a spirit of collaboration with the Bureau and the Director.

The CHAIRMAN submitted the Financial Report of the Director to the vote.

DECISION TAKEN

The Financial Report of the Director was unanimously approved, and it was decided to submit it to the Directing Council at its next Meeting and to congratulate the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and his associates on the financial policy reflected in the Report.^{3/}

The CHAIRMAN submitted for consideration the External Auditor's Report for 1954.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) requested supplementary information regarding paragraph 6 of the Report of the Auditor, on the exchange of dollars for local currencies. In item "a" of paragraph 10, the 3/ibid. Resolution III.

Auditor points out that "a substantial increase of the percentage of current collections will be required in the future to enable the Bureau to carry out its operations in accordance with the budget and the plan of operations." Paragraph 16 mentions that credit in the amount of \$34,489 has been extended by the Bureau to the Government of Venezuela, as an emergency measure. On the other hand, the Report of the Auditor shows an increase in field activities, this increase reflecting the sound financial policy followed by the Bureau, which in the past had been criticized for spending too much money on Headquarters activities.

Mr. HINDERER (Chief, Division of Administration, PASB) stated that, when he received the Report of the External Auditor, he reviewed the rates of exchange being used in all the countries and territories of the Western Hemisphere, and found that in all cases the Pan American Sanitary Bureau was using the legal rate of exchange for all transactions. There were cases, to which the Auditor might have been referring, in which, in certain cities, exchange offices often gave better rates of exchange than banks. These rates given by exchange offices are legal and violate no laws of the country. With regard to the second point raised by the Representative of Haiti, the speaker felt that what the Auditor intended to illustrate was that the history of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shows that assessments for current years are not always paid to the full extent within the corresponding year. As a matter of fact, an average of approximately \$1,725,000 to \$1,750,000 of current assessments are collected within the corresponding year. The point being made by the Auditor was that the countries should make a greater effort to pay within the year the assessment that is due, and he used the phrase "to increase the percentage of current collection", not to mean increasing the budget of the Organization, but rather increasing the collection rate.

As for the credit extended to the Government of Venezuela, the speaker stated that the mistake had been made by the Bureau and not by Venezuela. The request from Venezuela had been interpreted by the Bureau as an emergency one, because of the yellow fever situation in certain areas of Venezuela and, therefore, the Bureau had shipped the supplies immediately, instead of following the standard procedure of charging them to the Emergency Fund and later reimbursing the Fund. For some reason, it had been thought that the funds would be received from Venezuela before the shipment was made, and that therefore the involved transaction of using the emergency fund could be avoided. However, the payment had been delayed, the end of the year had come, and the Bureau had been caught at the end of the year with this amount outstanding. Nevertheless, at the beginning of the year, Venezuela had sent the money and the account had been cleared.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained why the request received from Venezuela had been considered as an emergency one. In October of last year, there had been a case of yellow fever in Caracas; this was extremely serious, since it was reported on the first day of the illness. In view of the situation with regard to Aedes aegypti, and inasmuch as no case of yellow fever had been reported during the past forty years, the Bureau had considered the shipment of the vaccine to be a matter of the utmost urgency.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) remarked that, although he had no instructions from his Government, he wished to express his personal opinion with respect to the statement made by the External Auditor, in paragraph 6 of the report, on exchange rates. He presented a detailed account of the procedures established by the Government of his country in the matter of the exchange rates for foreign currency, and of the existence of a parallel black market, which offers higher rates and which people take advantage of while keeping just within the limits of the law. He felt that, where organizations that maintain relations with governments are concerned, it is a good policy to respect the laws enacted by these governments. He thought it inadvisable to ignore the problem in order to prevent the countries concerned from lodging protests. As for the practice condemned by the Auditor in paragraph 21 of his report, the speaker expressed the hope that it would not recur.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained that the problem of exchange rates is not new, either for the Bureau or for the Latin American countries. With respect to Argentina, thanks to the generous contribution of the Government of that country, the Bureau has available the necessary funds in Argentine currency to take care of its needs there. Moreover, by virtue of the agreement concluded between the PASB and the Government of Argentina, upon the establishment of the Zone Office in Buenos Aires, the Bureau is authorized to use its funds freely on other expenditures. Up to now, the Bureau has received no comment from the governments with regard to its operations in this connection. The statement by the Auditor refers, rather, to the practices of other international organizations that have concluded no agreements of this kind with the countries. As for paragraph 21 of the Report of the Auditor, the Director observed that the Auditor himself had clarified the point, and that this practice would not recur.

Dr. GARCIA SANCHEZ (Observer, Mexico) suggested that it might be well to ask the Auditor to include in his report statements on the number of personnel and extent of expenses at Headquarters, in order to give the Member States a clearer idea of the decentralization. He also requested that the field personnel continue to be paid in dollars, despite the recommendation of the Auditor.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that the suggestion that the Auditor should limit his remarks to strictly technical financial matters was quite a natural one, but that the Directing Council, in establishing the external audit, had given rather broad functions to the Auditor. Article 12 of the Financial Regulations, approved by the Directing Council in 1951, contains a long list of powers of the Auditor in this regard. He pointed out that the Auditor serves not only the Bureau but also the World Health Organization, and that he is working under a very broad mandate from the latter. He recalled that the Auditor bases his report entirely on the information given by the Conference, the Council, and the Executive Committee, and that in making his comments on decentralization he is not attempting to state whether this decentralization should exist or not, but is simply commenting on the manner in which the approved decentralization is being carried out.

Dr. GARCIA SANCHEZ (Observer, Mexico) felt that his previous statement had not been interpreted correctly. He thought it within the functions of the External Auditor to comment on the operation of the administrative services of the Bureau, as well as to suggest economies in personnel and even to recommend increases in salary.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) recalled that an attempt to deal with the problem raised by the Observer for Mexico had been made by the establishment of the Committee on Economies and Decentralization, which had carried out part of its work but which had been discontinued by the Directing Council in view of the enormous difficulties and expense involved in making a detailed study of all the administrative activities of the Bureau. He pointed out that the Auditor states that the Zone Offices are functioning in a satisfactory manner and that decentralization is being continued, which would seem to clarify the question raised by Dr. García Sánchez.

Dr. GARCIA SANCHEZ (Observer, Mexico) reiterated his previous statements.

The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the Report of the External Auditor.

DECISION TAKEN

The Report of the External Auditor for 1954 was unanimously approved, it being decided to transmit it to the Directing Council at its next meeting. 4/

The session was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

4/ Ibid., Resolution III.

PRECIS MINUTES OF THE FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

Mexico, D.F.

Wednesday, 27 April 1955, at 10:15 a.m.

<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr. Alberto BISSOT, Jr.	Panama
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u>	Dr. Lucien PIERRE-NOEL	Haiti
<u>Secretary:</u>	Dr. Miguel E. BUSTAMANTE	Pan American Sanitary Bureau

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The CHAIRMAN opened the session.

The SECRETARY reported that an invitation had been received from the Minister of Public Health of Mexico for members of the Executive Committee and Observers to visit any of the country's institutions they might be interested in. It was agreed to draw up a program of such visits later on, when the work of the Executive Committee was further advanced.

TOPIC 6: STATUS OF QUOTA CONTRIBUTIONS
(Document CE25/14, Rev. 1)

The SECRETARY read the document on this topic.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) explained that the delay in remitting a sum of \$2,200 still outstanding on Argentina's contribution for 1954 was due to an administrative error on the part of the Public Health Ministry, which had taken the 1953 figure as the basis for the 1954 contribution, not realizing that the quota had been increased by \$2,200 in 1954. However, he added, the matter was being rectified at present.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) reported that, just before he left Paraguay, his Government had agreed to bring its quota contribution to the PASB up to date and that, if a telegram announcing the payment had not yet arrived, it would undoubtedly come before the opening of the World Health Assembly.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out the importance of the Bureau's success in the collection of quota arrearages from various countries, and invited the other countries to follow suit and bring their payments up to date. He felt that, since the document in question was only of an informative nature, similar to the one that would later be presented to the Directing Council, it would be appropriate at this time to take note of the document.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to take note of Document CE25/14, Rev. 1, on the status of quota contributions, presented by the Director.^{5/}

TOPIC 7: UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE FUNDS (Document CE25/12)

The SECRETARY read the document and the annexes thereto. The latter contained the report and recommendations of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations regarding this topic.

Dr. BRADY (United States), speaking as United States Representative, not as Chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings, stated that the position of his country with respect to the utilization of available funds was well known. His Government felt that such funds should be applied toward reducing the countries' quotas, instead of being utilized for other purposes. He therefore proposed that the balance of \$173,593.15 be applied toward reducing the amount of the 1956 budget to be covered by contributions from the Member States.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) felt that the proposed resolution under consideration was most important. The basic point of that resolution was the proposal to place \$100,000 in reserve fund for the purchase or construction of a new Headquarters building. In view of the difficulties at present experienced by the Latin American countries in acquiring hard currencies, and the consequent repercussions on national budgets, he continued, any increase in quotas would only further impede activities carried on by governments. It would be a wise policy, he felt, to continue the work started, without placing undue burdens on the governments, since these already had commitments to numerous international organizations. He felt the governments would be very gratified if quotas were to remain at the present level as long as possible. He proposed that the surplus of \$100,000, which it is planned to place in a reserve fund for the acquisition or construction of a building, be applied to 1956 as the \$100,000 allotted to increase the antimalaria activities. He added that in view of the decentralization policy prevailing at the PASB, there appeared to be no pressing need for carrying out the plan for a new Headquarters building. He feared that if a sum of \$100,000 were earmarked for constructing a new building --an eventuality that might be a very distant one-- in future years the circumstance might arise in which there would be no surpluses to add to that \$100,000 fund. If this should happen, he said, those funds would remain inactive for a considerable length of time and the cost of the new building, at present estimated at one million dollars, might possibly come to double that amount. Maintenance costs would also increase. It would, therefore, be difficult to install the new building without resorting to mortgages or again requesting credits. The \$100,000 in question should not remain inactive, he felt; that sum should not be kept from fulfilling the purpose for which it was meant, namely, to improve the programs already under way.

As regards the installation of a new elevator at Headquarters, Dr. Segura agreed that this should be done since there was no point in economizing on anything essential to the proper functioning of the present Headquarters buildings. In conclusion, he stated that he preferred to learn the opinions of the other representatives before coming to a decision concerning the use of the \$54,593.75 it was proposed to add to the antimalaria campaign.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) agreed completely with the opinions expressed by Dr. Segura, and stated that, although it might be desirable to construct a new building for Headquarters, the economic situation of many of the countries, including that of Colombia, did not make an increase in the quotas advisable. He specifically pointed out the serious economic situation of his own country owing to the fall in the price of coffee. He further stated that last year, after the quota contribution to the PASB had been fixed, it was decided to increase the amount; this increase, however, could not appear in the national budget of Colombia, but would be paid from the account for Special Expenditures.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) gave certain explanations regarding the funds whose use was under discussion. In 1947, he said, the Bureau's income was \$115,000, although fixed personnel expenditures amounted to \$170,000. Instead of establishing a Working Capital Fund with extraordinary contributions from each government, as other organizations had done, the Executive Committee at its first meeting in 1947 had authorized the Director to suggest to the governments that they make special contributions. The Government of Brazil contributed five million cruzeiros (about \$260,000); Mexico, \$200,000; Venezuela \$75,000; Argentina, 1,500,000 pesos (an amount not covered at the time, but since then paid); Chile, \$2,000; El Salvador, \$2,500, and the Dominican Republic, \$5,000.

The first suggestion to return the money in this reserve fund was made at Lima, in 1949, incorporating it in the following year's budget. Dr. Soper then called attention to the fact that this refund would mean crediting all the countries with a certain sum of money, which as a matter of fact corresponded to the special contributions made not by all the countries, but by a certain number of them. Thus, it would have seemed more logical, before considering a repayment to the general fund, to study the possibility of making such a refund to those countries that made special contributions. If the proposal of the United States were accepted, a situation would arise in the PASB that would be similar to that of many governmental services and certain international organizations, where a certain pressure is exercised to invest the entire budget before the end of the year, because of the fear that uncommitted funds will have to be returned. The aim of the Bureau was to keep up a steady, efficient rate of work, without any pressure to spend the money before the end of the year. Approval of the United States proposal would mean that the Director of the Bureau would in the future not feel free to request voluntary contributions from countries or private organizations for Bureau programs. The Santiago Conference had authorized the Director to request the financial collaboration, if it were necessary, of national or international organizations for the malaria eradication program. Both the Constitution and the Pan American

Sanitary Code provide for grants and donations from outside the Organization, he continued, and it would not be advisable to establish the precedent of returning sums on hand at the end of the year to the contributing countries.

Dr. Soper then remarked that he had been Director of the PASB for the past eight years and that the end of his newly started four-year term would coincide with his retirement from professional life, and that therefore he would not establish, or buy, or occupy the future new Headquarters building of the PASB. He added that, even if the decentralization of the Bureau continued, the Headquarters would never require less space than it now has in Washington, since decentralization does not decrease the services of the central organization very much. He suggested that the Executive Committee consult the various sections of the Bureau, the Assistant Director, and the Division chiefs regarding working conditions. There were officers who did not have a permanent office at their disposal, he said. There were no rooms to hold general personnel meetings or meetings of the governing bodies of the Organization. On his last visit to Washington, Dr. Chisholm, then Director-General of the WHO, after seeing the Headquarters building, had remarked that the PASB was the most unsatisfactorily housed of all the Regional Offices of the WHO. Dr. Soper felt that from the financial point of view the installation of the PASB, Regional Office of the WHO, in suitable premises, would be a sound venture. Up to now the cost of the new building had only been guesswork, but no money had yet been spent on plans or studies, he said. He believed that the governments of the Americas should commence to study the manner in which the cost of constructing a new building could be distributed over a period of years without giving rise to a large increase in the budget, i.e., in the contributions of the countries. Four years ago the two buildings now housing the Headquarters were purchased without funds, he continued. Thanks to luck and personal contacts of the Director, it had been possible to acquire loans from the W. K. Kellogg and Rockefeller Foundations and it had been possible to repay these within three years instead of six years as originally laid down. This was possible because of the surplus funds available each year. It seemed to him, therefore, that the most logical step to take would be to foresee future requirements at this time rather than wait until the need became pressing.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) requested explanations regarding quota increases, as well as on the proposals of the Representatives of Argentina and the United States.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained the authorizations given by the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference in Resolution XLIII to obligate up to \$100,000 of the surplus funds and to increase the 1956 budget by another \$100,000. All this was for the intensification of antimalaria activities in the Americas. He then quoted figures from the budgets of the Organization from 1947 to 1955, the budget having increased during this period by \$250,000. The Director also pointed out that the budget increase hardly compensated for the almost universal increase in costs and prices since 1949 and, consequently, for the decreased purchasing power of the funds at the disposal of the PASB.

Dr. BRADY (United States) reiterated his previous proposal concerning the utilization of available funds, stating that it was a matter of principle for his Government.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) stated that the document under discussion had not been received by the Argentine Government but had been received here in Mexico, and he would therefore have to consult his Government regarding the matter. He insisted on his previous proposal to the effect that the \$100,000 earmarked for a Building Reserve Fund be used to absorb the increase in the 1956 budget in order that each Member Country's contribution that year might remain the same as it was for 1955.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) stressed the importance of the problem and made reference to previous decisions of the governing bodies of the Organization, such as the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference in Chile, which specifically authorized a budgetary increase of \$100,000 for the malaria eradication program. It was his opinion that Dr. Segura respected this decision regarding malaria activities and had said, but without indicating how, that the surplus should be utilized to lessen the financial effort required for malaria eradication, merely giving to understand that the surplus should be applied toward reducing the quota contributions and that these should not be increased. The speaker felt that Dr. Soper had explained this part of the question most aptly since, if a refund were made, an injustice would be committed, as not only the contributing country would be reimbursed but all the Member Countries. Thus even countries that had not contributed would benefit undeservedly, and there would be countries, such as the United States, whose contribution to the budget is 60%, which would benefit in the same proportion. It seemed to him that such a refund would be dangerous, without precedent, and ill advised. Dr. Hurtado then briefly outlined the history of Bureau Headquarters from the time they occupied a room and hall in the Pan American Union building in Washington up to the present, when, thanks to

Dr. Soper and his staff, whose efforts deserved every recognition, the two buildings housing the present headquarters were bought. He recalled that at the time there were three similar buildings on sale but that one had been sold before the Bureau decided to make the purchase and for this reason only the two remaining ones could be acquired. He felt that to establish a reserve fund for a permanent Headquarters building was not only good business but a policy that was above criticism. He reminded the members of the Executive Committee that they were only an intermediate body whose decisions were submitted to the Directing Council, and asked them not to adopt any decisions that might lead to debate and create complications for the Directing Council. The speaker stated that he was not satisfied with the proposals of Argentina and the United States. As for Argentina's proposal, he felt that it might have carried more weight if, instead of recommending a reduction in quota contributions thanks to the \$100,000 intended for the building fund, the suggestion had been to add that sum to the amount already allotted to the malaria eradication program. He therefore recommended that a vote be taken on the proposed resolution appearing in Document CE25/12.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) stated that, after hearing the proposals of Argentina and the United States and the explanations given by Dr. Soper and the Observer for Cuba, he found the problem to be quite clear. The Bureau had existed for a long time; as time went on its problems increased, as did its obligations, its field work, and the assistance it renders. It was therefore natural that the Bureau should need larger Headquarters. He stated that Brazil faced great difficulties with respect to foreign exchange, but despite this he did not want to do away with the building reserve fund by assigning it to another purpose, since he considered such a fund amply justified. He felt it was necessary to keep this reserve fund, since the PASB did not have the obligation, as did other national and international organizations, of expending its funds within the year for which they were authorized. He felt that the proposal to create a reserve fund for the construction of a new Headquarters building was most wise.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB), at the invitation of the Chairman, indicated the amounts fixed for the quotas of the Member Countries making up the Committee in 1955 and 1956. He mentioned that these quotas already included the percentage corresponding to the increase of \$100,000 for the malaria eradication program. The said quotas are calculated on the basis of the corresponding scale of contributions of the Pan American Union and are as follows:

	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>Increase</u>
	\$	\$	\$
Argentina	148,000	155,400	7,400
Brazil	166,400	168,420	2,020
Colombia	48,600	52,290	3,690
Haiti	4,800	5,040	240
Panama	6,000	6,510	510
Paraguay	4,800	5,040	240
United States	1,320,000	1,386,000	66,000

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) called attention to the fact that the Organization of American States constantly reviewed its scale of contributions so that the scale for 1955 is not the same as the one established for 1956. Consequently, the proportionate increase in contributions is greater for some countries than for others, and there are even countries whose percentage contribution has been reduced.

The session was recessed at 11:40 a.m. and resumed at 12:05 p.m..

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) recalled that the Pan American Sanitary Conference had already allocated \$100,000 of the surplus for malaria eradication. The acceptance of the United States proposal would presuppose a change in the decision of the Conference, a change which the Executive Committee was not competent to make. He agreed with the sum allocated for the installation of a new elevator in the Headquarters building. The speaker stated that he had no objections as regards the placing of \$100,000 in a special reserve fund for the construction of a new building, but he was concerned as regards the problem of malaria throughout the world. All the experts in this field were greatly worried by the development of resistance in Anopheles to residual-action insecticides, he said, a fact which called for an acceleration of anti-malaria campaigns. He felt that both the PASB and the WHO, as well as all other organizations concerned, should make every possible effort in this direction, since the problem was not only one of health but also of the loss of life which the new position might bring about. Consequently, he suggested that a paragraph be added to the proposed resolution in Document CE25/12, recommending that the Directing Council authorize the Director to utilize the reserve fund initially intended for the construction of the building, in the event additional funds should become necessary for the intensification of the malaria eradication program. The speaker

also requested Dr. Alvarado, the PASB Regional Malaria Consultant, who was present at the session, to explain the present status of the problem.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) concurred in the remarks made by the Representative of Haiti.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) pointed out that the problem had many aspects that were difficult to make clear. The fact that the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference had approved an increase of \$100,000 in the 1956 budget did not mean that, if circumstances permit, this sum might not be covered with the \$100,000 of surplus funds, leaving the 1956 quotas at the same amount as in 1955. Furthermore, the argument that there would be a refund of funds contributed by some countries that would benefit all the Member Countries was not valid, since those special contributions had already been spent years ago. The voluntary contribution made recently by Argentina could not be used outside the Zone of which that country forms part. The arrearages collected at the end of 1953 and 1954 represented money that was intended for health activities and that entered a common fund. As regards the establishment of the Building Reserve Fund suggested by the Director, he stated he did not know whether the governments that had not been consulted regarding this matter would agree to assuming the commitment of the new construction, since the document concerned had been received by the representatives only at the opening of the Executive Committee meeting. He did not know whether the Argentine Government would agree with this proposal and consequently did not feel able to adopt a stand on the matter. Nor did he know whether the members of the Executive Committee could submit a concrete recommendation to the Directing Council regarding this question, since their governments had not been previously advised of this proposal. He therefore proposed that the report presented by the Director, together with the records of the discussion on this topic, the views expressed by the different representatives, and the statement made by the Regional Malaria Consultant, should be laid before the governments so that the latter could give definite instructions to their representatives when this question came to be discussed at the 26th Meeting of the Executive Committee and the VIII Meeting of the Directing Council.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) said that the last remarks of Dr. Segura had alarmed him somewhat. The Executive Committee is a governing body that represents the whole Pan American Sanitary Organization, he said. Its members do not represent only seven countries but all the Member States of the Organization. Furthermore, the Executive Committee is called upon to present only

recommendations to the Directing Council, without taking decisions on the manner of distributing funds. The proposal of the United States Representative appeared unacceptable to the speaker. As regards the proposal by the Representative of Haiti, he considered that this entails a mere transfer of funds, which the Directing Council could empower the Director to carry out at any time. He recommended that the proposed resolution be approved as it appears in Document CE25/12.

The CHAIRMAN submitted for consideration the proposal made by the United States Representative to the effect that the \$173,593.75 surplus be allocated to reducing the quota contributions toward the 1956 budget.

Since no one seconded this proposal, it was rejected.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) suggested that a statement be presented by the PASB Regional Malaria Consultant.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) felt that, as Director, he should briefly explain, before Dr. Alvarado's statement, the present situation with respect to the malaria eradication program. Various governments that had been contacted had expressed great interest in these activities and, in addition, the UNICEF Executive Board was also very much interested. UNICEF is not only considering the problem with respect to the Americas but also for the rest of the world, and a meeting of the Joint WHO/UNICEF Committee has been convened for next week to discuss the malaria problem as a problem of eradication. It is to be hoped that UNICEF will accept this suggestion when the malaria experts of the WHO and the PASB sponsor this idea at the said meeting. Regarding this problem, UNICEF does not consider it in the same light as previous ones, but rather as one in which it is intended to separate the funds and utilize a substantial sum to tackle the problem. If UNICEF accepts the proposal made by Dr. Alvarado and Dr. Soper, in the meeting that took place in New York two months ago, it might be expected that UNICEF would be willing to contribute some three million dollars annually in the Americas for supplies for this program.

A fundamental point on which UNICEF has insisted is that under no circumstances should that organization be called upon to pay for the technical advisory services for such programs. He went on to state that, as the Director had explained the previous afternoon during the meeting of the Working Party, this was a problem for the WHO; the latter organization had not the necessary funds, so that in recent years UNICEF had been obliged to reimburse the WHO for the cost of technical advisory services. The

PASB will now have to keep in mind the possibility of UNICEF's accepting this world-wide program, particularly the program in the Americas, and, in that event, it will be necessary to have all funds that can be obtained for the eradication of malaria. The speaker referred to the Addendum to Document CE25/12, which had just been distributed, and said that it was intended to provide additional information on the problem without being a detailed statement of the situation in the different countries.

Dr. ALVARADO (Regional Malaria Consultant, PASB) commenced by pointing out that the Addendum to Document CE25/12 contains two reports, which give a concise but complete summary of the theory of malaria eradication as well as of the present status of the malaria problem in the various countries of the Americas. The mandate given by the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference to the Bureau is well known, he said. The operative part of that resolution reads:

"To declare that it is of the utmost urgency to carry out the terms of Resolution XVIII of the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference, which recommends that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau promote the intensification and coordination of antimalaria work, with a view to achieving the eradication of this disease in the Western Hemisphere."

The bases for this resolution are set forth in the document just mentioned, but perhaps it is worthwhile emphasizing in this text the words "utmost urgency", which aptly describe the present emergency situation. This emergency has arisen because of the appearance in anopheline vectors of resistance to the insecticides that are being used nowadays to combat malaria all over the world. This extremely grave situation confronted the countries with the possibility, not a remote but an immediate one, that this increase in resistance would perhaps, after some time, annul the greatly beneficial results so far achieved with residual-action insecticides in antimalaria work all over the world. It is well known, he said, that the insecticides at present in use belong to the chemical family of chlorinated hydrocarbons; DDT, hexachlorocyclohexane, chlorodane, dieldrin, methoxychlor all belong to the same family, and any insect, whether house fly, Anopheles, or agricultural insect pest, which develops resistance to one of these insecticides by genetic process, will also acquire a certain degree of resistance to other members of the same family of insecticides. Thus, the original expectation that it would be possible to replace one insecticide by another, when the insects acquired resistance to the one first used, is having to be completely given up. This resistance phenomenon permits only a brief time before the partial resistance to a second insecticide becomes complete resistance.

This situation does not occur only as a consequence of the application of insecticides in public health programs. If this were so, we should have some hope left that, if the insecticides were not applied during a certain period, some time might be gained while awaiting a better technical or economic opportunity for applying the eradication program. The largest quantity of the insecticides in this group are used in agriculture, and evidence has already appeared in various parts of the world that the spraying of insecticides in this group for agricultural purposes is producing DDT-resistance in anopheline vectors before the use of the same insecticides in public health programs. A specific case of this occurred in Lebanon, where a year after spraying operations had started in the antimalaria campaign it was found that anopheline vectors as well as Anopheles sacharovi showed resistance to DDT, owing to the fact that several years before DDT was already being used for agricultural purposes, in foci. As is known, the application of DDT to vectors in the larval stage represents the most rapid and certain way in which the anophelines, as well as almost all other insects, are able to develop resistance to DDT. It would not be possible to tell any country to suspend its program of applying insecticides for agricultural purposes, because these insecticides have also revolutionized the insect control problem in that particular field, and agriculture is vital in the economic development of the countries. If, at the present moment, the public health agencies were to remain idle and cease to carry out any antimalaria campaigns, within three, four, or five years the Anopheles would still have developed the same resistance to the insecticides belonging to the family of chlorinated hydrocarbons. Therefore, the problem is an urgent one, as stated in the resolution of the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference. At the present time it amounts to an emergency situation, for the alternative prospect is to become totally unable, within a few years, to cope even with the simple control of malaria by these highly efficient means, much less with the eradication of malaria in a given region of the world. We would find ourselves in the situation of many years ago, gaining the scant and costly benefits then obtained by out-dated methods of sanitary engineering and of antilarval campaigns.

Dr. Alvarado went on to say that this problem of malaria eradication has awakened extraordinary interest throughout the Continent. The requests for technical advice for the preparation of eradication plans or for converting present control plans into eradication plans, in accordance with the Santiago resolution, are so numerous that, for the time being, they are beyond the technical and administrative possibilities of the special units established by the Bureau to deal with these problems in the field. Referring to the estimated total cost of converting

present control programs into eradication programs, he pointed out that the present sums assigned by the countries for their respective antimalaria campaigns are shown in the first column of the last table in the Addendum to Document CE25/12. The figures for the additional funds considered necessary for the eradication programs appear in the four other columns. If these additional funds are added together for the four years deemed necessary to attain the desired objective through a well-planned and well-executed eradication program, they come to an approximate total of \$45,000,000; this additional sum will be sufficient, assuming that the countries maintain for the next four years the budget of \$10,747,000 shown in the first column. He explained that these additional funds include both the increases that are yet to be made by the countries themselves in their antimalaria budgets, and the sums that might be obtained from the international organizations. Finally, he stated that the cost of this campaign will appear exceedingly low, considering the enormous results to be obtained, if one compares this figure of \$45,000,000 for malaria eradication in the Americas with the cost of the possible loss of the benefits so far obtained through the application of insecticides, in other words, if all the ground gained were to be lost again and we were to return to the pre-DDT period.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) supported the proposed resolution, with the addition suggested by the Representative of Haiti.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) expressed confidence that UNICEF would vote the appropriations for the malaria eradication campaign, but pointed out that these amounts would not be sufficient to give the campaign the vigor and intensity mentioned by the Regional Malaria Consultant. He said that, for poor countries like his own, a contribution of \$1,000,000 to the campaign represents a sacrifice equivalent to \$10,000,000 for other countries. This, he said, was the reason for his insistence that the proposed resolution be approved, with the addition he had suggested.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) and Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) announced that they would support the proposed resolution, with the addition suggested by the Representative of Haiti.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) said that the discussion made it obvious what the result of the vote would be. He asked that his position be made clear in the record, namely, that he accepted the item covering the installation of a new elevator at Headquarters and the rest aside from the \$100,000 for the antimalaria campaign, but felt that the proposal of the Director regarding the establishment of a reserve fund for new buildings be submitted to the governments for study, together with all pertinent documentation, as he had suggested earlier.

The SECRETARY stated that the Bureau always sends the governments complete documentation on all meetings of the governing bodies of the Organization. At the request of Dr. Williams, he read the proposed resolution as it would be drafted with the addition suggested by the Representative of Haiti.

Dr. WILLIAMS (United States) supported the proposed resolution as amended.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) urged that a vote be taken on his proposal that no decision be adopted at this time on the establishment of a building reserve fund.

As no one seconded the proposal, it was rejected.

The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the proposed resolution appearing in Document CE25/12, with the amendment suggested by the Representative of Haiti.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) abstained from voting.

DECISION TAKEN

By unanimous decision of the voting Members, the Executive Committee resolved:

1. To concur in the recommendations of the Director regarding: the establishment of a Building Reserve Fund in an initial amount of \$100,000; the installation of a new elevator in one of the Headquarters buildings at a cost of \$19,000; and an increase in the allocation for the antimalaria campaign in the amount of \$54,593.75, plus any savings that may be realized from the installation of the elevator.

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

3. To transmit to the VIII Meeting of the Directing Council the report of the Director on this matter with the request that the Director's recommendations, together with the recommendation presented in the preceding paragraph, be approved.^{6/}

The session was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

^{6/} Ibid., Resolution V.

PRECIS MINUTES OF THE FIFTH PLENARY SESSION

Mexico, D.F.

Thursday, 28 April 1955, at 10:25 a.m.

<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr. Alberto BISSOT, Jr.	Panama
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u>	Dr. Lucien PIERRE-NOEL	Haiti
<u>Secretary:</u>	Dr. Miguel E. BUSTAMANTE	Pan American Sanitary Bureau

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The CHAIRMAN opened the session.

The SECRETARY reported that the Working Party charged with the study of the Proposed Program and Budget for 1956 had completed its task and was preparing its report for presentation at the morning session of the following day.

1. TOPIC 10: REPORT ON PUBLIC INFORMATION (Document CE25/13)

The SECRETARY gave an explanation of Document CE25/13 and the annexes thereto.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) felt that the document gave a good over-all picture of the important informational services of the Bureau, both as a Pan American agency and as a Regional Office of the World Health Organization. Although it could not be said that this aspect of the Bureau's activities had in any way been neglected, it was his impression that the major part of the information furnished through the means outlined in the document was primarily channeled to technical groups, to those working in the field of public health, and he continued to believe that the great majority of the population of the Americas had little means for obtaining direct information on the work being done by these health agencies. He felt it was necessary to insist on this point: that the population at large in the countries must be reached as an important means of coordinating public health action. To this end, any gradual increase in this phase of the Organization's activities was justified, he felt, since wider publicity would aid in obtaining the means to continue the work of public health without being subjected to the worry of almost permanently static budgets.

The speaker then quoted that paragraph of Document CE25/13 which reads: "In the nontechnical field, the Bureau works through press releases, through radio-television programs, through pamphlets, films, graphic exhibits, and by direct correspondence with those seeking information." He added that in Argentina all the media mentioned in that paragraph have yet to be introduced, with the exception of a photographic exhibit in the corridor of the Zone Office, which because of its location could not be considered a public exhibit. Absolutely nothing has been done with regard to radio or television programs. As an example of what could be done, Dr. Segura told of how on World Health Day he personally had lent a motion picture about the VII World Health Assembly which was shown on television and created an excellent impression. In referring to the United Nations Information Center in Buenos Aires, he said that the work of the Center is still quite weak and consequently goes unnoticed by the general public.

Dr. Segura stated that he was in favor of producing a film such as that suggested in the document under consideration, even though the cost would be high, since publicity through films in the long run is less difficult than it would seem at first glance. He also felt that Zone Representatives could be very useful in cooperating with the information work. Up to now, this work in the Zone of which Argentina forms a part has been very weak, owing to the many functions the Zone Office has had to perform. But it is necessary that the medical profession of all the Americas be aware of what the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is, what it stands for, and what its aims are. He stated that 90% of the physicians in the Americas do not know what the PASB is or how to take advantage of the services it offers. The speaker felt that the publication of an informative pamphlet, for distribution to every member of the medical profession in the Continent, would be a most useful means of publicizing the activities of the Bureau. He concluded by expressing his satisfaction at the manner in which the topic of public information had been approached in the document under consideration.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) felt that the discussion was very interesting, in view of the importance of public information in modern life. He stated that in Colombian papers he had never read any of the Bureau's press releases mentioned in Document CE25/13. Generally speaking, there is very little publicity about the Bureau in Colombia, and if the public health personnel do not have an exact knowledge of what the PASB is, the rest of the medical profession has no knowledge whatever of the Bureau. He felt that an informative film would be an excellent propaganda medium and that, if financial considerations did not stand in the way, he would be in favor of making such a film. He then asked for an explanation of the manner in which the Bureau's press releases are circulated.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti), in referring to the weekly short-wave broadcasts from the United Nations mentioned in the document, stated that they are completely unknown in Haiti. He felt it would be useful if the Bureau advised the public health services of the Member Countries of the dates, hours, and wavelengths over which these programs are broadcast, so that the national services could inform the public when to listen. He concurred with the remarks of the Representative of Argentina concerning the lack of information on the Bureau among members of the medical profession and the advisability of publishing an informative pamphlet. He suggested that such information be circulated not only to physicians but to every scientific and

medical organization in each country, since through these entities the general public would learn what the PASB is. Such a knowledge on the part of the public is essential nowadays, since international organizations are maintained through the people's taxes and the public wants to know where and how its money is being used.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) stressed the importance of intensifying information on the Organization in the various Member Countries. Not only is the great ignorance of what the PASB means regrettable, he said, but in addition it might sometimes cause the Bureau to be taken for an outside organization that is trying to interfere with local health matters. As the Representative of Argentina had indicated, he felt it was important above all to reach the medical profession, as the easiest means of getting to the general public. In addition, it would be advisable to include medical and scientific societies, which the Organization would find very useful in this work. He felt that it was essential that Zone Representatives speak the local language, as otherwise they could not give lectures or talks or efficiently inform on the work of the PASB. A knowledge of the language would also facilitate official relations within the country.

He felt it would be desirable, first, to concentrate on the medical profession in the matter of information and later go on to the general public. He expressed certain reservations regarding the proposed film, owing to the fact that cultural levels of the population varied greatly in the Latin American countries. One might find the same situation as that which occurred in Peru when a health education picture was tested on a group of native Indians. When the latter saw the enlarged image of Indians from another village and of a louse on the screen, they exclaimed that the people and the lice they knew were not like that. The entire effect of the film was lost.

Dr. Rodrigues then presented a proposed resolution whereby the Director of the Bureau would be requested to study the means of having Zone Representatives publicize the activities of the Organization as widely as possible, and of devoting the greatest attention to distributing to the national health services information on program developments and on the needs of each country.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) stated that, in the matter of public information, the importance of local factors is not being taken into account. It is a question of general culture, he said,

and even among the medical profession only public health physicians have any contact with the PASB and the WHO. In most countries the medical schools are training only clinicians, without caring to train public health officers, he said. It was only a few years ago that Paraguay established its first class in public health and only two years ago, its first class in hygiene and preventive medicine. Public health falls within the field of general culture, he said, and it was therefore necessary first to create a favorable environment. Although the WHO might help a great deal in this field, he felt that the most efficient way would be to establish those measures that go to make up culture in general, such as promoting the establishment of public health schools and the training of public health physicians, and later, through them, the general public could be reached.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) expressed his agreement with many of the remarks made in the course of the debate. He supported the suggestion of the Representative of Argentina that a pamphlet or small booklet be published that would describe the Organization and the work it does, which could be made available to all those interested in the work of the Bureau. It should be somewhat larger than a pamphlet yet somewhat smaller than the annual report of the Director, he added, and should explain the structure of the Bureau but above all contain a clear statement of the governing principles of the Organization. He added that many people still did not realize that the PASB was created because there existed a need for an organization to concern itself with public health on an international level. It would be advisable that such a publication be of a handy format and that, in addition to furnishing essential information on the Organization, it contain a description of the activities as an example of the application in practice of its aims.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) referred to the remarks of the Representative of Paraguay on the need to first create a favorable environment in order that the proposed film might yield beneficial results. He said that there is no program without some previous educational activity. Experience has shown that programs with films are one of the best publicity means, since mobile film projection units could reach the farthest corners of the country and most of the population came to see the show. Thus, a film on public health shown in that manner would constitute a true educational venture. He agreed with the Representative of Brazil and asked that the Zone Representatives collaborate closely with the governments in promoting publicity about the PASB. He suggested that subcommittees be established in the capitals of states and departments to distribute information on the activities of the PASB, both to the

medical profession and the general public. This would in no way interfere with whatever publicity was being carried out by the national health organizations.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) recalled as an example the fact that, when in 1954 he suggested that a film be made about the VII World Health Assembly, the plan was abandoned because of the high cost. Later, television stations in Argentina showed two films on the meetings of UNICEF and the International Telecommunications Union which followed the plan he had outlined for the VII World Health Assembly film. It was proven that this was an efficient means of publicizing the activities of organizations such as the PASB.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) stated that he was not opposed to the production of a film, but insisted that it was more useful to commence by training public health workers, establishing classes in public health, etc., in order that the general public might be reached through them.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) replied to the questions of the Representative of Colombia regarding press releases. He explained that the Bureau circulates the press releases to all newspapers, other publications, and radio stations in Latin America, as well as to certain newspapers, special publications, and radio stations in the United States and Canada. They are sent directly to the source of distribution, he said, and it is up to that source whether or not the press releases are published. Direct action by the Zone Representatives has on occasion been helpful in getting these releases published or broadcast. About 3,000 copies of each press release are distributed, he said, and naturally many of these copies are never used. However, a certain number of newspapers and radio stations do utilize the press releases and publish them either complete or in an abridged form.

Replying to the Representative of Haiti, Dr. González stated that broadcasts are made over short-wave by the United Nations from New York, with news about the United Nations and its specialized Agencies, including the WHO and the PASB. He understood that certain local stations in the Continent make rebroadcasts of these programs. In addition, the United Nations furnishes recordings of such broadcasts so that local stations may rebroadcast them at any time they wish.

He went on to say that the Zone Representatives have always shown interest in furnishing information on Bureau work

and done everything possible to spread information concerning the Organization's activities and objectives and its cooperation with the governments. However, he felt that the national health services are best able to assist the Zone Representatives in such informational work. The Representatives could supply informative material to the health services, but it would be difficult for them to have a direct influence on local media of information. Dr. González felt that the influence of the health services could be perfectly well utilized to spread information on the activities of the Organization in every country. Finally, he pointed out that through the Bulletin the Bureau tries to reach the medical profession as far as possible, within its budgetary limits. Some 6,800 to 7,000 copies of each issue of the Bulletin are distributed, most of them going to medical and scientific organizations all over the Continent.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) stressed the importance of the collaboration of the Zone Representatives with the local health organizations, which are always ready to distribute publicity material given to them. To illustrate this point of view, he explained that two years ago he had asked the Bureau for some films; he received one, he said, on the work of nurses, made in El Salvador, which was available only for a month. This showed that it is not easy to obtain such material. The Zone Representative should offer to supply such material even when it is not requested, and the public health services of the country, in turn, should circulate it, thus establishing mutual collaboration.

He stressed that the Bureau should supply information to the public health services on the times and wavelengths of the weekly broadcasts from the United Nations station, so that these broadcasts could be brought to the attention of the public in each country.

Dr. Pierre-Noël felt that the Bureau's Bulletin is very specialized and is read only by public health physicians. A short bulletin should be published for the rest of the medical profession to give news and information rather than present only scientific subjects, since the general practitioner prefers to read matters pertaining to his specific field and not necessarily to public health topics.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) stated that, on his return to Washington, the Bureau will send out full information on the times and wavelengths of any broadcasts on the Bureau and the WHO, and on how to obtain recordings of these broadcasts. He pointed out that, although the Bulletin specializes in public health matters, it always contains a section giving news and information on the meetings of the governing bodies and field programs of the Organization.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) declared that he had been very pleased by the discussion of this problem. It is interesting to note, he said, that there is such great insistence on the part of Public Health Ministries regarding publicity on the Bureau and the WHO. He stated that the Bureau has always been somewhat reluctant to extend the range of its public information, since it is felt that the Organization works better in collaboration with the Ministries and should never compete with them as regards publicity within the country. There has never been any attempt to focus all attention on the work of the Bureau; so much so, that even material bought with Bureau funds bears no indication that it is contributed by the Organization. He pointed out that collaboration with the Ministries, as regards public information, makes it possible to adapt this work to the needs of each country, a fact that shows that such activities should be decentralized. Publicity is expensive, he said, and it may be necessary in future budgets of the Bureau to increase the allocation for this purpose and to study the administrative machinery necessary to make the Bureau's activities known to the medical profession and to the general public. Referring to the Bulletin, he admitted that it specializes in public health matters, but he hoped that, with the collaboration of the local health authorities, medical societies could be given more information regarding the Organization.

The CHAIRMAN, summarizing the discussion, stated that publicity is of undoubted value, that it should be carried on in collaboration with the governments, and that it should be borne in mind that, if no informative material is received, publicity is not possible. He added that, in Panama, the WHO Newsletter is very well received by the press, and he felt that the same would be true if similar publicity were given to the activities of the PASB. By this means both the medical profession and the general public would be better informed regarding the Organization. He stressed the importance of the proposal by the Representative of Argentina to publish a pamphlet on the PASB, and he felt that, despite the difficulties as to cost, the proposed film could be a very effective means of publicity.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) supported the proposed resolution presented by the Representative of Brazil, whereby the Director of the Bureau would be requested to study the means of having the Zone Representatives publicize the activities of the Organization as widely as possible, and of devoting greater attention to preparing material for distribution to the Member Countries.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) felt that the proposal of the Representative of Brazil is too limited, and he suggested that the Chairman appoint a committee to draw up the draft resolution on this subject.

Dr. GARCIA SANCHEZ (Observer, Mexico) pointed out that the policy of the Bureau has always been to work through the national health organizations and, if the Zone Representative were not very careful, interference might arise with the national information service. He suggested that the committee to be appointed bear in mind that the Bureau has always been known for its seriousness of purpose and has never had to rely on propaganda to gain the prestige it enjoys. To retain its prestige, it might be preferable for the Bureau to carry on such publicity through the Ministries and national organizations.

The CHAIRMAN agreed to the suggestion made by the Representative of Argentina and appointed a drafting committee consisting of the Representatives of Argentina, Brazil, and Haiti to draft, during a brief recess, the proposed resolution on the topic under discussion.

The meeting was recessed at 11:40 a.m. and resumed at 12:05 p.m..

The SECRETARY read the proposed resolution prepared by the drafting committee, worded as follows:

"THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

"HAVING SEEN the report on public information presented by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (Document CE25/13); and

"TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the views and suggestions expressed during the discussion of this document,

RESOLVES:

"To recommend that the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau study and, at a future meeting of the Executive Committee, propose procedures for publicizing as widely as possible in the countries of the Continent the aims and activities of the Pan American Sanitary Organization."

DECISION TAKEN

The above proposed resolution was unanimously approved. ✓

TOPIC 11: FELLOWSHIP STIPENDS (Document CE25/7)

The SECRETARY read Document CE25/7 dealing with this topic.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) explained, for the information of the members who had not taken part in the previous meetings of the Executive Committee, the background of this question, which had been raised by the speaker during the 22nd Meeting of the Executive Committee and which had given rise to the document under consideration. He mentioned that his request on that occasion was based on the fact that fellowship recipients had complained in his country regarding the meagerness of their stipends, which obliged them to adopt a strict form of living in a foreign country. Furthermore, the Government was without precise knowledge regarding the requirements of the Organization with respect to the granting of fellowships, since some applicants had been refused. At the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference the Director presented a complete document on this subject, and during the discussions that followed it became evident that it would be advisable to draw up a classification of fellowships, since the granting of a fellowship to a recent graduate for further studies is not the same as granting one to a chief of a service, who has a professional career and greater demands. For this reason, the Conference adopted a resolution on this subject, requesting that the Director "continue studying the possibility of establishing classifications of fellowships, with different stipends, after consultation with the national and international organizations concerned", and that "if the conclusions reached in these studies so justify, they be included in draft general fellowship regulations, which will set forth also the basic conditions and requirements for awarding fellowships, such provisions to be sufficiently flexible to make them applicable within the Member Countries." The document under consideration, Dr. Segura said, is the result of this resolution. He would like to ask the Director that, on similar occasions, the documentation be sent earlier to the countries, since there had been no time for consultation or for the receipt of definite instructions on the matter. He stated that he was very pleased with the contents of the document presented, which gives certain criteria to clarify the situation. For example, it could be seen that there is no possibility of establishing a classification of fellowships in the form suggested at the Chile Conference, a difficulty that affected not only the Bureau but also other organizations. Therefore, the thing to do is to act in accordance with the possibilities.

✓ Ibid., Resolution VI.

Nevertheless, the Technical Working Group on Fellowships had formulated various recommendations designed to improve the situation with regard to the payment of stipends, which would be of great assistance to the fellows. The speaker stated that the annex to Document CE25/7 entitled "Fellowships Program of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau" gave a completely satisfactory answer to the questions raised at the Chile Conference, and he requested that this annex be sent to all the countries so as to serve as a guide both to the national public health administrations and to the fellows in connection with the granting of fellowships. Referring to paragraphs 42 and 44 of the said annex, the speaker found the texts too rigid and asked the Director to redraft them so as to make them more flexible.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) also considered that the document submitted was an excellent one, but he found that there was contradiction between paragraphs 40 and 44. In the former it was stated that "a stipend is not a salary or honorarium", whereas in paragraph 44 it is stated that "PASB stipend rates may be reduced if a fellow receives a subsidy in cash or in kind from another source (organization, institution, government, etc.), other than his salary." A fellow might very well receive a subsidy from his government or from some institution in his country, he said.

Dr. WEGMAN (Chief, Division of Education and Training, PASB) stated that the possibility of a reduction referred to in paragraph 44 arises when the fellow receives a subsidy in cash or in kind from the government or institution of the country where he is studying. He mentioned, for example, that in Ecuador there is a center for training in tuberculosis control where the government provides lodging for the students. The same occurs in the nursing course in Costa Rica, where an institution also provides lodging for the students. In both cases the Bureau reduces the amount of the stipend so that it covers only the cost of food and incidentals. Replying to Dr. Segura, the speaker stated that the cause of the delay in the dispatch of Document CE25/7 to the governments was that it was desired to incorporate in the said document the decisions of the Technical Working Group on Fellowships adopted at its last meeting held at the end of February, so that the information would be as complete and up to date as possible. As regards the text of paragraph 42, he pointed out that, in accordance with the instructions of the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference, the same procedure as that used by the WHO has been established. Concerning the point that the fellows are regarded as residents when their study programs enable them to reside in one place for 15 or more consecutive

days, he agreed that this arrangement seems too rigid. As a matter of fact, when special circumstances arise, a flexible criterion could be applied in this respect.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) declared that the provisions of paragraph 42, whereby the Director of the Bureau may determine the stipend rates and adjust them at his discretion, seemed too rigid to him. He felt that this was a power that might be entrusted to such an outstanding Director, but in the future there might be a poor Director who might abuse this power. With reference to paragraph 44, he thought that the question raised by the Representative of Brazil had already been clarified by Dr. Wegman, and all that was necessary was to add to the text, for greater clarity, that the stipend rates may be reduced if a fellow receives a subsidy from the country where he is studying.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) agreed with the remarks made by the Representative of Argentina.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) welcomed the suggestion made regarding the modification in the text of the document under discussion. He pointed out that it was clear that the person responsible for preparing fellowship regulations could not foresee all the implications that readers may find in the text.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) felt that paragraph 42 should be deleted. It is not advisable to make the determination of stipend rates one of the prerogatives of the Director. This question should be settled by the Organization. Consequently, Cuba had opposed this system, advocating that the classification of the fellows and the types of fellowships should determine the stipend. The benefit derived by the countries from the award of fellowships for unspecified purposes is scanty. It would be better for the purpose to be clearly defined, he said. He shared the views of Dr. Segura, but felt that the fellowship program under discussion does not carry out the purpose of the discussion that took place during the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference.

Dr. PIERRE-NOËL (Haiti) considered there is a contradiction between paragraph 9, in which it is stated that normally fellowships are not awarded for more than a year or less than six months, and paragraph 17, in which it is stipulated that "in the case of fellowships for undergraduate studies, ... the government concerned is asked to undertake that, if for any reason PASB cannot continue the fellowships in subsequent years, it will make financial provision for the students to complete their studies". The limitation of the fellowship to one year gives rise to many drawbacks, he said.

He mentioned, in this connection, that in his country a fellowship had been awarded to a physician to study physiology abroad, with the aim of occupying a chair in this subject on his return in the Medical School in Haiti. However, one year was not sufficient for him to acquire all the knowledge necessary to teach in the School. WHO and PASB are now helping to raise the level of medical training in Haiti. The limitation to one year places an obstacle in the way of this program. He did not consider valid the argument that the fellow could return for another year of studies after an interval of several years. This procedure has the drawback of twice interrupting the fellow's work within the country, and also would possibly cause him to lose his facility in the use of the foreign language. He suggested that paragraph 9 be modified to provide that fellowships may be awarded for more than one year or less than six months. Otherwise, there would be no point in retaining paragraph 17.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) considered that it should be a function of the Director to determine the stipend rates and the amount paid to a fellow, according to the conditions in the country where he is studying. It is not a matter of a good or bad Director, but merely of an administrative function, without the need to inform the Directing Council or the Conference, yearly, on what was decided in each particular case. He also stated that, after many years' experience in granting fellowships for regular or special courses, he was able to appreciate that the greatest contribution made is in the training of public health officers in the regular courses.

The Director stated that the question raised regarding the different types of fellowships affects not only the Bureau but also the WHO and other organizations. Bearing in mind the fact that the WHO acts jointly with the other specialized agencies of the United Nations in this matter, it cannot be expected that the Bureau should itself establish types of fellowships that are in contradiction with the standards laid down by the Technical Working Group on Fellowships.

As regards the observation by the Representative of Haiti on Article 9, the speaker stated that there would be no objection to accepting the possibility of granting fellowships in exceptional cases for more than one year. However, this would presuppose that the number of fellowships granted to a given country would be limited.

Dr. WEGMAN (Chief, Division of Education and Training, PASB) considered it logical that in exceptional cases fellowships of more than one year should be granted. He stated that paragraph 17 had been included because it appears in the WHO Fellowship Regulations, in view of the fact that there are certain countries where it is not possible to follow university studies. In this way the WHO sends students to the Bureau for as many years of study as are necessary until they receive their medical degree.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) said that he did not understand the term "undergraduate studies" in paragraph 17. Anyone studying for a degree is following a university course, he said, and all that is lacking is the academic title.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) said that paragraph 17 was not quite clear to him either. He was not aware that the Bureau granted fellowships to students who had not yet graduated. The English "undergraduate" corresponds to the Spanish "estudiante". At the present time much training not calling for university studies is being given. The same professions are classified as university and non-university. As he understood it, paragraph 17 refers to this type of training.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) wanted to know whether paragraph 17 applies to the Americas.

Dr. WEGMAN (Chief, Division of Education and Training, PASB) stated that this paragraph was included because it appears in the WHO Regulations, but in reality it would not apply in the Americas.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) proposed that the sentence of paragraph 42 in question be drafted as follows: "Stipend rates for regular fellowships are determined and adjusted by the Director of the PASB."

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) asked why the stipends for fellows studying in Chile had been reduced from 50,000 to 36,000 Chilean pesos per month, considering that the cost of living in that country, according to official statistics, had recently increased by 70%.

Dr. WEGMAN (Chief, Division of Education and Training, PASB) stated that there was good reason at the beginning of this year for the reduction in the stipend but, owing to the increase in the cost of living, the stipend had been restored to 50,000 Chilean pesos.

DECISION TAKEN:

It was agreed to take note of the report on fellowship stipends and the annexes thereto; to recommend that the Director transmit to the governments the suggestions made during the discussion on this topic, in connection with the text of the "Fellowships Program of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau" annexed to Document CE25/7; and to transmit to the VIII Meeting of the Directing Council Document CE25/7 and annexes, together with an analysis of the comments received from the governments.^{8/}

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA OF A NEW TOPIC

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) requested authorization from the Executive Committee to include a new topic on the agenda of the meeting. On preparing the agenda, through an oversight it had not been taken into account that certain transactions had taken place during the year in the Emergency Procurement Revolving Fund. Although the country that received the assistance has already repaid the amount, there is a resolution of the Directing Council to the effect that the Executive Committee and the Directing Council should receive reports concerning the use of the Fund. Consequently, he asked authorization to include this topic in the agenda.

It was so agreed.

The session was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

8/ Ibid., Resolution VII.

PRECIS MINUTES OF THE SIXTH PLENARY SESSION

Mexico, D.F.

Thursday, 28 April 1955, at 4:00 p.m.

<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr. Lucien PIERRE-NOEL	Haiti
(Later):	Dr. Alberto BISSOT, Jr.	Panama
<u>Secretary:</u>	Dr. Miguel E. BUSTAMANTE	Pan American Sanitary Bureau

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TOPIC 12: PRODUCTION OF BIOLOGICALS FOR CENTRAL AMERICA
(Document CE25/5)

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL, the Vice-President, assumed the Chair and opened the session.

The SECRETARY read Document CE25/5.

Dr. WILLIAMS (United States) stated that, on the first page of the document read, it was stated that "the Director addressed letters to the Ministers of Health of the six countries concerned", and asked whether this was an error or whether there was any other country apart from El Salvador interested in the establishment of a Central American Institute of Biological Products.

Dr. BISSOT (Panama) replied that Panama was among the countries interested in the said Institute.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) wished to be informed in what countries there existed, at the moment, laboratories producing vaccines.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) stated that, according to information in the possession of the Secretariat of the Bureau, vaccines against smallpox, diphtheria, rabies, typhoid, and also against whooping cough are being produced in El Salvador; and that some vaccines, especially that against smallpox, are being produced in Guatemala and Nicaragua. As far as is known, no type of vaccine was produced in Costa Rica, Honduras, and Panama.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) deemed it advisable to establish precisely what was to be understood by biologicals. This wide term seemed in this case to be restricted to vaccines. He pointed out that in the proposal from El Salvador, only a vaccine against smallpox was mentioned, and that it was therefore not clear what products the proposed Central American Institute of Biological Products would handle.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) explained that the term "biological products" had been retained throughout the official documents, since it had been employed by El Salvador when that country laid the matter before the Organization. He added, however, that notwithstanding this terminology used by El Salvador, it was mainly a matter of vaccines, especially that against smallpox and others in everyday use, as well as of certain types of antitoxins, especially those against diphtheria and tetanus.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) thought that it should be clearly established that this center would restrict itself to a limited number of biologicals, and he proposed that note be taken of the proposal of the Government of El Salvador and that the Director be requested to continue the study of the subject.

Dr. BISSOT (Panama) explained that the reason for the proposal of El Salvador was the difficulty of obtaining certain vaccines, especially dry smallpox vaccine, and reiterated that, in principle, the Government of Panama accepted the establishment of the Institute.

The CHAIRMAN summarized the statements of the Representatives of Argentina and Panama, and proposed a draft resolution to the Committee.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to take note of the report of the Bureau on the proposal of the Government of El Salvador and to recommend to the Director that he continue to study the problem.

TOPIC 13: REGIONALIZATION OF VACCINE PRODUCTION (Document CE25/6)

The SECRETARY read Document CE25/6.

The CHAIRMAN asked the Chief of the Division of Public Health of the Bureau to outline the background of the document that had been read.

Dr. MOLINA (Chief, Division of Public Health, PASB) stated that the report had been prepared on the basis of replies to a detailed questionnaire sent by the Director of the PASB to fourteen countries and thirteen territories. Information had been requested on figures of annual consumption, supply sources, and estimated requirements of vaccines against smallpox, typhoid fever, pertussis, diphtheria and rabies. These replies had shown that, of the nine South American countries, there were five that produced sufficient vaccine against smallpox to cover their needs, and four that did not produce it in sufficient quantity. As to the vaccines against rabies and tuberculosis, only three out of those nine countries produced them in sufficient amounts. Production of vaccines against diphtheria and whooping cough was adequate in two countries, while the seven remaining countries did not produce them. Of the Central American countries, only Costa Rica and El Salvador had supplied information.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) noticed an apparent contradiction between the report referring to the production of biologicals for Central America and the one now under consideration, on the regionalization of vaccine production. The former stated that the establishment of a Central American Institute of Biological Products might benefit the countries of that zone, while the latter stated that these countries are already capable of covering their requirements. There was no doubt, he said, that a program for regionalization would also include Central America. In his opinion, the countries where laboratories were already functioning should develop into true centers of production, capable of filling the gaps existing in other countries. He suggested that it might be advisable to establish a system that would allow all countries to obtain vaccines in neighboring countries, whenever unforeseen circumstances called for this.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) shared Dr. Segura's viewpoint, adding that the establishment of technical standards for bacteriological laboratories functioning in America was of fundamental importance. He pointed out that the regionalization of vaccine production might give rise to practical difficulties unless an adequate organization were first established. The WHO, he said, gave technical assistance to various laboratories producing vaccines, and he thought that nothing would make such assistance more effective than the establishment of a policy of production standards.

Dr. MOLINA (Chief, Division of Public Health, PASB), replying to Dr. Segura's statement, said that the report on the production of biologicals for Central America and the one on the regionalization of vaccine production were different in origin and scope. The former was the result of a request from El Salvador, and an attempt was being made to solve the situation by establishing a center for the production of vaccines, taking as a model the INCAP organization. The second report, he said, originated with a recommendation of the working party that had studied the proposed Program and Budget for 1955, to the effect that the Director should make a study of the production, centralization, and distribution of vaccines for the Americas. Replying to Dr. Zacarias Arza's remarks, he stated that the Bureau acted only at the request of the governments.

The CHAIRMAN, interpreting the viewpoints set forth in the discussion, presented a draft resolution.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to authorize the Director of the Bureau to prepare a plan on the regional production of vaccines for Central America and the Caribbean area.

RECONSIDERATION OF TOPIC 13

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) asked that the resolution just approved be reconsidered.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) supported Dr. Zacarías Arza's proposal.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that regional production plans should depend upon official action and pointed out that, within the near future, a meeting would be held in Rio de la Plata, where the matter might be discussed to better advantage. He stressed the difficulties confronting the Bureau in harmonizing the viewpoints of thirty-five governments, this figure including the non-autonomous territories. He recalled that INCAP, the product of a joint action by the governments, had commenced to function in 1946 with only three countries as participants and three more as collaborators. Finally, he said that he was expressing neither agreement nor disagreement with the proposal; he would merely point out that the PASB could not take a single step without some action coming from the governments.

Dr. BISSOT (Panama), Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia), and Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) urged that the discussion of Topic 13 be reopened.

Dr. WILLIAMS (United States) said that the United States Delegation was willing to reconsider the decision taken and suggested that the Director of the Bureau be authorized to consult with the governments of the Central American countries, of the Caribbean Area, and of Panama, relative to the establishment of a regional center or centers for the production of vaccines, wherever deemed appropriate.

The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the proposal for reconsideration submitted by Dr. Zacarías Arza.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to reopen the debate on Topic 13.

TOPIC 13: REGIONALIZATION OF VACCINE PRODUCTION (Document CE25/6)

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) stated that the problem showed totally different aspects in Central America and in South America. Apart from the reasons already set forth, there were others, of a commercial nature, since several private laboratories were producing vaccines in various countries. He asked the representatives to study the problem with particular care, taking into account the various factors that had been brought out during the discussion.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) thought that a preliminary geographical study of vaccine production might be useful. With a map of this type, it would be easy to determine the requirements of each country and recommend a distribution policy. For example, it would be illogical for the WHO to establish laboratories in a country adjacent to one where vaccines were being produced in sufficient quantity to satisfy requirements. He recommended that the Director make a study of this problem.

Dr. GARCIA SANCHEZ (Observer, Mexico) suggested the advisability of establishing control agencies and agreed to the approval of a resolution authorizing the Director of the Bureau to study the problem of regionalization.

The CHAIRMAN summarized the viewpoints set forth in the discussion and put a draft resolution to the vote.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to authorize the Director to continue studying the regionalization of vaccine production, in consultation with the governments.^{10/}

TOPIC 14: DATES OF THE 26TH AND 27TH MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OF THE VIII MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL
(Document CE25/3)

The SECRETARY read Document CE25/3.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) observed that the month of September had been fixed for the next meetings of the Executive Committee and the Directing Council, whereas formerly the month of October had been selected. He asked the reason for this change.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) replied that the meetings of the Region of the Americas had been taking place at later dates than those of the other Regions of the WHO, and that this had been the cause of certain delays in presenting the documents. He added

10/ Ibid., Resolution IX.

that the conference rooms of the State Department in Washington were air-conditioned and therefore no objection could be raised against working in the summer. It should also be remembered that, on several occasions, the WHO had pointed out the delay in receiving the documents from the Region of the Americas.

Dr. BISSOT (Panama) proposed that the 26th Meeting of the Executive Committee be held after 15 September.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) seconded the proposal of the Representative of Panama.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) stated that he would support the proposal submitted by Dr. Bissot, provided such a change did not cause any difficulties of organization.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) recalled that, in the past, the Committee had experienced difficulties in obtaining the State Department conference rooms for the month of October. For the proposed date, there would be no difficulties. On the other hand, if the meetings were held in September, the Directing Council would be able to participate in the ceremonies to celebrate the centenary of the graduation of Carlos Finlay from the Jefferson Medical College, which would take place in Philadelphia. He added that the date proposed did not interfere with any other technical meeting.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) thought that the reasons given by the Director of the PASB were convincing and that the date established in the document under discussion should not be changed.

DECISION TAKEN

The proposed resolution contained in Document CE25/3 was unanimously approved.^{11/}

Dr. BISSOT then took the Chair and put up for discussion the next item of business.

11/ Ibid., Resolution X.

TOPIC 15: METHOD OF WORK OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL
(Document CE25/9)

(a) Reduction of Secretariat Services

The SECRETARY read Part A of Document CE25/9.

Dr. PIERRE-NOËL (Haiti) stated that he agreed with the desire to introduce economies, which had inspired the proposed resolution, but that he was radically opposed to paragraph 2 of the operative part, the acceptance of which would be equivalent to eliminating certain representations from the meetings, both of the Executive Committee and of the Directing Council. It was useless, he said, to acknowledge the right to use one's own language, if the representatives were placed in the position of being unable to understand what was being said in the other languages. The elimination of the simultaneous interpretation system in four languages, he said, would practically limit the power of the governments to select representatives, since nomination would have to be limited to persons with certain linguistic knowledge.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) also expressed his agreement to the introduction of economies, but shared the opinion expressed by the Representative of Haiti and thought that the governments should not be forced to designate only persons who knew English and Spanish. While it was true that many of the representatives knew these languages, the principle that only those who knew them could take part in the debates was inadmissible.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia), while agreeing to the reduction of expenditures, thought that the statements made by the Representatives of Haiti and Brazil were fully justified. The economic factor, he said, was not the only one that should be taken into account; there existed other factors whose importance could not be denied. Referring to paragraph one of the operative part of the proposed resolution, he said that there were many cases in which the work of the committees made it possible to gain time, clear up many points, and facilitate the work of the plenary sessions.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) recognized the importance of the existence of a linguistic service to facilitate the understanding among representatives. The possibility of understanding what is being said, constituted the basis of a democratic regime and of equal opportunity within the Organization. However, simultaneous interpretation required highly specialized, and hence, highly paid personnel. Each of the languages used in the Directing Council represented an additional disbursement of \$1,500. It

should be noted that, in the present meeting, an identical system of interpretation to that suggested for the Council was being used. He thought it might perhaps be advisable to modify the drafting of the second paragraph, wording it so as to authorize the Director to consult, in each case, the Governments of Haiti and Brazil, as to whether they thought the additional expense necessary. As to the work of the committees, experience had shown that, upon certain occasions, it had not been possible for two committees to meet simultaneously, because many countries send only one representative, and therefore, no quorum could be made up for one of the committees. There had been no idea of excluding anyone from the discussion of any problem; on the contrary, the aim was that all problems should be debated in plenary session, thus placing the countries with only one representative on an equal footing with the others. In practice, this system of work had already been employed, and paragraph 1 of the operative part of the proposed resolution provided for the adoption of an already tested method.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) stressed the importance of the document submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration, and believed that, while financial considerations were important and the endeavor to give definitive character to a method that had been tried out at previous meetings was understandable, there existed still other considerations that had to be taken into account. The right of representation must not be limited, he said, and with respect to Haiti and Brazil, the elimination of the simultaneous interpretation services into French and Portuguese, would mean exactly that. There existed a traditional system, which had to be respected. What good would it be if a representative could speak in his own language but was not enabled to understand what the others were saying? Haiti and Brazil could not be expected to assume the obligation of sending polyglots to all meetings. Considerations of national prestige that could not be overlooked forbade this. Simultaneous interpretation had made it possible for the representatives of different countries to sit around a table and carry on discussions with full understanding. It was not possible to make a selection of languages. A system of equality had to be maintained as between the four languages officially recognized by the Pan American Sanitary Organization. In the opinion of the Observer for Cuba, the proper course would be for the Executive Committee to reject totally Part A of the document submitted for consideration.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) stated that he did not understand how paragraph 2 had been included in the operative part of the proposed resolution. He felt that the sending of representatives with a knowledge of languages should be left to the discretion of the governments but should in no way constitute an obligation. It was therefore his opinion that paragraph 2 should be deleted and only paragraph 1 approved.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) agreed with the Observer for Cuba as regards the advantages of simultaneous interpretation. He felt that paragraph 2 of the operative part of the proposed resolution should be deleted and paragraph 1, modified as follows: After the words "To authorize the Director to organize the secretariat services for future meetings of the Directing Council, on the basis that the main committees will not be established and that all agenda topics will be discussed in plenary session," the remaining text should be replaced by: "it being understood that secretariat services will be provided for any committee or committees, working party or parties that the Council may deem it necessary to establish." Article 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council authorizes the establishment of main committees, and Article 29 refers to the appointment of working parties, he said. A modification of paragraph 1 such as he proposed would be in keeping with the Rules of Procedure, he felt.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) urged the deletion of paragraph 2 of the proposed resolution for the sake of harmony among the American nations.

The SECRETARY stated that, in effect, two distinct points had been raised by Dr. Hurtado in his statement. The question of paragraph 2 no longer had any importance, in view of the objections raised against that paragraph. However, paragraph 1 was an entirely different matter. Up to 1951 the Directing Council had held plenary sessions, he said, and there were two committees, namely, one on Administration, Finance, and Legal Matters, and the other on Program and Budget. When committees are established, it is necessary for them to have the same services at their disposal as the plenary sessions. On 7 April 1953, the Directing Council had decided to discontinue the main committees together with all of the attendant interpreters, recording equipment, operators, précis writers, translators, stenographers, typists, etc., and from that date the Council had adopted as a working method the holding of plenary sessions. The advantage of this procedure was that all the representatives attended the same session, and the problem that two simultaneous sessions could not be held because there

would be no quorum, could not arise. He pointed out that, contrary to what happened in the case of committees, the working parties did not require much personnel, since there were no minutes to be printed and distributed. Moreover, the number of persons attending a working party was not limited, and all the delegations could attend. He added that the cost of the Directing Council meeting had been calculated on the basis of plenary sessions and that, if the resolution were not approved, the Director would be faced with the need for an additional \$5,550.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) felt he should give certain explanations to the Executive Committee concerning the language problem. He pointed out that, at the WHO, interpretation was not made into all the languages of the Member Countries, yet this fact did not give rise to difficulty. As an example, at the Regional Meeting held in Africa in 1953, only French and English were used, and there were meetings conducted entirely in English. On the other hand, it should be recognized that all countries have the right to be heard and to have their representatives understand what is said at the meetings. For this reason, the PASB would not insist on that point of the proposed resolution, but it would be advisable to keep in mind that part of the cost of Directing Council meetings was defrayed by the WHO, an organization that did not employ interpretation services for all of its Member Countries.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) proposed that the text of paragraph 1 be modified in the following manner: "To authorize the Director to organize the secretariat services for future meetings of the Directing Council on the basis that the topics on the agenda will be discussed in plenary sessions and that working parties will be established for which the necessary secretariat services will be provided."

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) asked whether there was any reason why the Executive Committee should concern itself with the number of committees of the Directing Council. He felt that the Executive Committee was not competent to decide what the Directing Council should do. He remarked that the Secretary had stated that in the event of the proposed resolution not being approved, the Director would require another \$5,550. What did these statements mean? Why did the Secretary state that the Director would need this additional amount? Had the Director already decided on this question? If so, it would be necessary to state that such a decision did not lie within his powers. Why did he take it for granted that the new system eliminating simultaneous interpretation was already established? The speaker felt that this was not a question of the principle involved but rather of the method employed, which, to a certain extent, was one of coercion.

The SECRETARY said that his statement had not been correctly interpreted. Preparations for the coming meeting of the Directing Council in September had been made on the same basis as in former years. The draft resolution submitted to the Directing Council for consideration referred to subsequent meetings, he said, and it should be noted that it was the Director's task to prepare these meetings annually and to adopt what measures might be necessary in connection with the services for them. In view of the fact that the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference had authorized the Executive Committee to adopt the necessary measures with regard to future meetings, the Director had requested that certain reductions be authorized, but had made no personal decision on the matter.

Dr. PIERRE-NOËL (Haiti) stated that, after hearing the explanations given by the Secretary, and in view of Resolution XXXI of the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference, which authorized the Executive Committee to take those measures it deemed necessary in relation to future meetings to facilitate the conduct and expedite the work of the meetings, he supported the proposal presented by the the Representative of Argentina. As for paragraph 2 of the proposed resolution, he wished to reiterate his protest, resolutely to oppose adoption of the paragraph and, in fact, to refuse to have anything to do with the matter.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) felt that an explanation was necessary, and said that his proposal was similar to that of Argentina, although slightly different. The Executive Committee was authorized to adopt measures to facilitate the holding of meetings, he said, but only in situations not specifically provided for in the Constitution or in the Rules of Procedure. The Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council authorize that body to appoint whatever main committees it deems necessary for the study of the agenda topics. For this reason, the approval of that paragraph of the proposed resolution in its present form might give rise to a problem. He added that the Directing Council's decisions could not be foreseen. If it should decide to limit its committees to one, it would mean no change in the present procedure. It was his opinion that paragraph 1 was not necessary, but in the event it were approved, the paragraph should be drafted in a manner compatible with the Rules of Procedure.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) said there was no intention to curtail the right of the Directing Council to determine its rules of procedure. However, there was the question of planning for future meetings, and all that had been done was to request authorization to plan the meetings on the basis of present procedure. This would not prevent the Council's deciding otherwise

when it met. The Director would do everything he could to obtain all the necessary personnel. However, what was being requested in this case was merely an authorization to plan the meetings and prepare the budgets for them. It was a known fact, he added, that any decision of the Director or of the Executive Committee could be changed by the Directing Council, but it would seem advantageous to have a document showing that both the Director and the Executive Committee had complied with their mission, particularly since the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference had entrusted the Executive Committee with a greater responsibility as regards details of organizing the meetings of the Directing Council.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) said that he had no objection to deleting paragraph 1 but that if it were retained it should be changed after the words "plenary session", to read: "it being understood that secretariat services will be provided for any committee or working party that the Council may consider it desirable to establish."

The SECRETARY read the Spanish translation of the proposal made by Mr. Calderwood.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) felt that this recommendation was unconstitutional and contrary to the Rules. It was quite clear what was wanted, he said, but it could not be carried out by any of the means so far proposed. The rights of each of the governing bodies of the Pan American Sanitary Organization had to be safeguarded, he felt. The XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference had not authorized the Executive Committee to decide on matters incumbent upon the Directing Council. It was true the Committee had been authorized to adopt whatever measures it deemed necessary in relation to the preparation of future meetings, but it should be noted that Resolution XXXI approved at Santiago limited that authorization to "situations not specifically provided for in the Constitution of the Pan American Sanitary Organization or in their respective rules of procedure". That is to say, the Executive Committee was given authorization to act in unforeseen situations, but nothing else. He felt that the Directing Council would decide in September what it wished to do. Naturally, there was a solution for every problem, and the matter under discussion might well be resolved through an adequate formula such as changing paragraph 1 to a recommendation. The text might state: "to recommend to the Directing Council the advisability of not establishing the Main Committees."

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) stated that in view of the legal turn the debate had taken he would defer to Dr. Hurtado's opinions but that he found it surprising that the only real expert in constitutional matters present on the Executive Committee, namely Mr. Calderwood, the Representative of the United States, should have proposed an amendment to the paragraph in question that was not constitutional.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) asked the Chair whether there would be a vote on the deletion of paragraph 1 or on a change thereof in the manner suggested.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) proposed that two votes be taken on the matter; one, on whether to omit entirely paragraph 1, and the other, in the event the paragraph were retained, to determine which of the proposed amendments would be adopted.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) seconded the proposal by the Representative of Brazil.

The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the proposal of the Representative of Brazil, which was seconded by the Representative of Colombia, in order to ascertain whether paragraph 1 was to be deleted from the proposed resolution.

Those voting in favor of deleting the said paragraph were the Representatives of Colombia, Haiti, Paraguay, and the United States.

The CHAIRMAN expressed doubt as to whether four votes constituted a majority, in view of the fact that the Executive Committee is composed of seven Members.

Dr. HURTADO (Observer, Cuba) stated that, in accordance with parliamentary procedure, four votes constituted a majority in these cases.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) shared the opinion of the Observer for Cuba.

The CHAIRMAN announced that there had been a majority vote.

DECISION TAKEN

Paragraph 1 of the proposed resolution was deleted by majority vote.

Paragraph 2 was put to a vote.

DECISION TAKEN

Paragraph 2 of the proposed resolution was unanimously rejected.

The session was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

PRECIS MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH PLENARY SESSION

Mexico, D.F.

Friday, 29 April 1955, at 10:25 a.m.

<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr. Alberto BISSOT, Jr.	Panama
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u>	Dr. Lucien PIERRE-NOEL	Haiti
<u>Secretary:</u>	Dr. Miguel E. BUSTAMANTE	Pan American Sanitary Bureau

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TOPIC 15: METHOD OF WORK OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL
(Document CE25/9) (Continuation)

(b) Rules for Technical Discussions

The CHAIRMAN opened the session and declared that the discussion on Topic 15, commenced at the previous session, would be continued.

The SECRETARY read that part of Document CE25/9 which contains the draft Rules for Technical Discussions. He then stated that the Representative of the United States had proposed changes in six of the articles and he read the texts of these.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) suggested that the draft Rules be examined article by article.

The CHAIRMAN submitted the proposal made by the Representative of Paraguay to the Committee.

The proposal was approved by a majority vote.

The CHAIRMAN submitted Articles 1 and 2 for consideration by the Committee.

DECISION TAKEN

Articles 1 and 2 of the draft Rules were unanimously approved.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States), referring to Article 3, asked whether it might not be advisable to establish limits to the introduction of new topics for technical discussions, for example, to request that they be announced 21 days in advance, as provided for in Article 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that Article 3 had been drafted precisely to avoid the late inclusion of new topics. He explained that the topics for this type of technical discussion called for several months preparation, the selection of the experts who had to be present, and simultaneous interpretation during the meeting. He cited, as an example, what had happened during the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference, where there had been a last minute increase in the number of topics presented. He thought it advisable to restrict the discussion to a single topic, since in this way a single interpretation team would be sufficient. This limitation would not prevent any delegation's presenting additional topics which it considered necessary during the plenary session of the Council.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) said that his proposal was aimed precisely at bringing about what the Director had just said.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained that in Article 17 of the draft under discussion it was already specified that the technical discussions would not be of an official character nor form part of the activities proper of the Directing Council. Furthermore, he proposed that the article under consideration be drafted as follows: "The technical discussions shall be limited to one topic."

The CHAIRMAN put the proposal of the Director to the vote.

DECISION TAKEN

Article 3 was unanimously approved with the text suggested by the Director of the Bureau.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) proposed two changes in Article 4. The first consisted in deleting the words "Public Health Ministers", since the channels of communication between the Bureau and the governments were already established and it would be superfluous to specify this in the Article. Furthermore, the article referred only to Member Governments, whereas in Article 20 of the draft the participation of representatives of international organizations was allowed. Consequently, it appeared logical that the documentation relating to the technical discussions should be sent not only to the Member Governments but also to all those persons who were going to participate in the discussions. He suggested adopting the same wording as that employed in Article 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council, relating to the dispatch of its documentation, i.e., the topic selected for the technical discussions should be communicated "to Members, Territories, and Organizations entitled to representation."

DECISION TAKEN

Article 4, with the amendment proposed by the Representative of the United States, was unanimously approved.

The CHAIRMAN submitted Articles 5 and 6 for approval.

DECISION TAKEN

Articles 5 and 6 were unanimously approved as they appeared in the draft Rules.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) considered that Article 7 was vaguely worded and asked what was the criterion for considering as adequate the remuneration of experts called upon in technical discussions.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained that there was a constant need to engage experts as consultants for different countries. The Organization had, jointly with WHO, a standard scale for determining the remuneration of such experts. This remuneration could vary according to the training and individual status of the specialist, but was always within the established limits.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) asked for details concerning the amount paid, for example, to the experts who drew up the technical reports for the Santiago Conference.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) stated that these experts had received the per diem established for Chile, plus remuneration for the number of days they were employed, calculated on the basis of a monthly salary of \$700.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) asked whether the remuneration of the experts was only for the number of days during which they participated in a meeting of conference, or whether it also covered the preparatory work they carried out.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) explained that the experts normally called upon for this type of work were paid only from the day they left to attend a meeting until the day of their return home, but not for the work previously carried out in preparing the report. He recalled that in the case of the Santiago Conference the total of per diem and remuneration had amounted to \$35 per day, and that the number of days had been relatively small.

DECISION TAKEN

Article 7 of the draft Rules was unanimously approved.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) proposed that the same change as in Article 4 be made also in Articles 8 and 9, and for the same reason, namely, to ensure that the introductory statement by the expert would be sent to the Members, Territories, and Organizations entitled to representation.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether introductory statements by experts would also be translated into French and Portuguese.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) drew attention to the fact that this point was different from the one discussed during the previous session. He explained that the working documents of the meetings of the Organization were always distributed in two languages (English and Spanish) and that in this particular case there were only thirty days in which to do the work. He did not feel it advisable to oblige the Organization to keep a team of translators in order to translate the introductory statements into four languages.

DECISION TAKEN

Articles 8 and 9, with the amendment proposed by the Representative of the United States, were unanimously approved.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) observed that, according to the present wording of Article 10, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is not held responsible for the opinions and ideas expressed in the introductory statement. He felt that it should read: "The Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall not be held responsible". Furthermore, he suggested that the words "solely and exclusively" in the last part of the sentence should be deleted, since an expert might want to cite someone else's opinion as well as give his own personal views.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the words "cannot be held responsible for" be replaced by "shall not be held responsible for".

He added that the Representative of Argentina proposed that the last part of the article be deleted.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed that Article 10 be worded as follows: "The Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall not be held responsible for the opinions and ideas expressed in the introductory statement."

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) expressed doubt as to whether the word "install" was the most appropriate one in the English text of Article 11.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) proposed that this article be set aside for redrafting and that the discussion continue.

The CHAIRMAN accepted this suggestion and nominated the Representatives of Argentina and the United States to be responsible for drafting the new text of Article 11.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) suggested that Articles 12 and 13 be combined into a single article, reading as follows: "A Moderator and a Rapporteur for the technical discussions shall be elected by a majority vote of the participants present and voting who are members of the national delegations represented on the Directing Council."

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed that Article 12 be drafted in the form proposed by the Assistant Director of the Bureau.

The CHAIRMAN then submitted Articles 14 and 15 of the draft Rules for approval.

DECISION TAKEN

Articles 14 and 15 were unanimously approved.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) proposed that Article 16 of the draft Rules be deleted since, in view of the fact that Article 3 had been amended, Article 16 was superfluous.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to delete Article 16 from the draft Rules.

The CHAIRMAN submitted Article 17 for consideration.

DECISION TAKEN

Article 17 was unanimously approved.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay), referring to Article 18, suggested that the expression "separately and apart" is confusing since it might have two different meanings.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the said expression be replaced by the word "separately".

DECISION TAKEN

Article 18, worded in accordance with the Chairman's proposal, was unanimously approved.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) asked what was the significance of the word "national" in Article 19.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) believed that this word had been introduced to differentiate between officially accredited participants and the other participants mentioned in the following article, but felt that it could be deleted.

The CHAIRMAN observed that in Article 12, already approved, the same adjective "national" appeared, and that if its deletion were approved, this should also apply to Article 12.

DECISION TAKEN

Deletion of the word "national" in Articles 12 and 19 was unanimously approved.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) pointed out that Article 20 do not mention the representatives of the United Nations or of the Organization of American States. He also pointed out an omission, in that there might be governmental organizations maintaining official relations with the WHO and the PASB which, although not specialized agencies, as in the case of the Foreign Operations Administration, might wish their representatives to take part in the technical discussions. Consequently, he proposed that Article 20 might also include governmental organizations, apart from delegations.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) agreed that the representatives of the specialized organizations of the OAS should also be mentioned. As regards the representatives of governmental organizations mentioned by the United States Representative, he considered that it was sufficient for their governments to include them in the respective delegations so that, in accordance with Article 19 which had just been approved, they could participate in the technical discussions.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) proposed that mention be made of the representatives of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, of the Organization of American States, and of the non-governmental organizations maintaining relations with the WHO and the PASB.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) asked whether the amendments suggested by Dr. Segura would make it possible to invite representatives of international organizations which could not

be considered to be Specialized Agencies of the United Nations or of the OAS in the technical sense. He consequently suggested the following wording for Article 20: "Representatives of international organizations, intergovernmental and nongovernmental, maintaining official relations with the World Health Organization or the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, may participate in the technical discussions, with the consent of the Moderator.

DECISION TAKEN

Article 20, worded in accordance with the text suggested by the Representative of the United States, was unanimously approved.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) suggested that Article 21 read as follows: "Persons participating in the technical discussions attend in their personal capacities."

DECISION TAKEN

Article 21 was unanimously approved in the form proposed by the Representative of Argentina.

The CHAIRMAN submitted Article 22 of the draft Rules for consideration.

DECISION TAKEN

Article 22 was unanimously approved.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) supposed that the meaning of Article 23 was that when the technical discussions were held there would be no meeting of the Directing Council. He felt that this Article should be worded more clearly.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the previously nominated Drafting Committee should also prepare a new text for Article 23.

It was so agreed.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that Articles 24 and 25 of the draft Rules be deleted.

DECISION TAKEN

The proposal of the Chairman was unanimously approved.

The SECRETARY stated that the Representative of the United States had suggested that Article 26 of the draft Rules be worded as follows: "No minutes of the sessions shall be kept, but the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the Technical Secretary, shall prepare a summary of the discussions."

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the words "but the Rapporteur" be replaced by "the Rapporteur".

DECISION TAKEN

Article 26 was unanimously approved with the amendments proposed by the Representative of the United States and the Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that Article 27 was related to Article 23, which the Drafting Committee had to prepare, and consequently he proposed that the said Committee also draft a new text for Article 27.

It was so agreed.

The session was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. and reopened at 12:15 p.m.

The SECRETARY read the text of Articles 11, 23, and 27, prepared by the Drafting Committee appointed for the purpose. The proposed wording was as follows:

Article 11. "The Chairman of the Directing Council, upon completion of the discussion of the Council agenda, shall set the time for the opening of the technical discussions, and shall convene the first special session."

Article 23. "The Directing Council shall not meet on the day the technical discussions are held."

Article 27. "The Rapporteur shall present his report at a special session to be held prior to the date set for the closing of the Directing Council meeting."

DECISION TAKEN

The texts suggested by the Drafting Committee for Articles 11 and 23 were unanimously approved.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) proposed that the words "or of the Conference" be added at the end of Article 27.

The SECRETARY stated that the Rules under discussion were intended solely for technical discussions held during the meetings of the Directing Council.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained that there was a difference between the technical discussions of the Directing Council and those of the Pan American Sanitary Conference. The technical discussions form part of the agenda of the Conference, whereas this is not so in the case of technical discussions held during the meetings of the Directing Council. In the former case, the conclusions and resolutions adopted are laid before the plenary session of the Conference and, once approved, are

included in the Final Act. On the other hand, recommendations adopted during technical discussions of the Directing Council do not carry the same weight as recommendations to the governments, since they are not included in the Final Act. This did not imply, however, that the said recommendations could not be discussed during the plenary session of the Council should any delegation wish to include the topic in the agenda of the meeting.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) withdrew his amendment in view of the explanation given by the Director.

DECISION TAKEN

Article 27 was unanimously approved as worded by the Drafting Committee.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) pointed out that the text of Article 28 was confusing and suggested the following text: "The report of the Rapporteur shall present the majority opinion together with any minority or individual opinions expressed in the course of the technical discussions."

DECISION TAKEN

Article 28 was unanimously approved in the form proposed by the Representative of Argentina.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) drew attention to the apparent contradiction existing between Article 2 and Articles 29 and 30 of the draft Rules. The first lays down that the technical discussions should deal with matters whose study is capable of producing immediate and practical results, whereas Articles 29 and 30 indicate that the reports of the technical discussions will contain no resolutions for consideration by the Directing Council and that the latter will restrict itself to taking note of the report. He believed that the aim of these articles was to establish that the technical discussions are an activity separate from the agenda of the Directing Council meeting. If any delegation wished to submit proposals to the Directing Council based on the technical discussions, it could do so.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that the interpretation given by Mr. Calderwood concerning the technical discussions in the Council was correct. The reports of the said discussions would be documents which would be submitted to health authorities all over the Continent for their consideration, without being recommendations. In other words, they would be handled in the same manner as the reports of the WHO Expert Committees. Later

on, such reports might be employed in the preparation of the programs or budgets, or in support of proposals. He recalled that in the Pan American Sanitary Code and in the Constitution of the Organization, the power to submit recommendations to governments in connection with the activities of the Bureau was reserved for the Conference and the Council.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) suggested that Article 29 should state the possibility of the report on the technical discussions being examined by the Directing Council if any delegation wished to include this topic in the agenda of the meeting.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) reiterated his previous remarks and explained some of the background of the question. He recalled that in 1947, during the XII Pan American Sanitary Conference, recommendations of the Pan American Malaria Committee were presented. These were included in the Final Act of the Conference almost without discussion, once they had been approved by the experts. However, the said recommendations called for activities impossible to carry out with the funds then available to the Bureau. Another example was recently provided by the Final Act of the Santiago Conference, wherein there appeared numerous resolutions on statistics, precisely because this topic appeared in the technical discussions of that Conference. He believed that the discussion of topics at meetings of the Executive Committee should be limited to those concerning which the governments had already received documentation in good time. Furthermore, the Director had difficulty in preparing the budgets, since he had to draw them up sufficiently well in advance. Resolution I of the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference established that in the future only those programs or recommendations supported by appropriate funds would be considered as responsibilities of the Bureau. The technical discussions during meetings of the Directing Council, as for example in 1955, could serve very well as a guide for the preparation of the budget for 1956 and could be approved at the Council meeting of the same year. However, since limited discussions were involved, he did not believe it advisable for recommendations formulated during them to be the subject of decision by the Directing Council immediately after the conclusion of such discussions.

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) proposed that Article 29 might be deleted and that the following paragraph be added to the next article: "Any recommendations in the report on the technical discussions shall be made known to the governments, so that they may initiate such measures as they deem necessary."

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) proposed that Article 29 be retained as it appears in the draft Rules.

DECISION TAKEN

The proposal of the Representative of Colombia was unanimously approved.

The CHAIRMAN submitted Article 30 for consideration.

DECISION TAKEN

Article 30 was unanimously approved in the form it appears in the draft Rules.

The CHAIRMAN put the draft Rules as a whole to the vote, with the amendments formulated in the course of the debate. He stated that the Secretariat had to renumber the articles of the Rules, in view of the fact that some of them had been deleted.

DECISION TAKEN

The Rules relating to technical discussions during the meetings of the Directing Council, as they appear in Document CE25/9, with the amendments approved during the discussion, were unanimously approved.

The CHAIRMAN submitted for consideration the draft resolution on this topic, appearing in the same document.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to recommend that the Directing Council approve the Rules for Technical Discussions at Directing Council Meetings, as amended^{12/}

TOPIC 16: MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY ORGANIZATION HELD AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS (Document CE25/11)

Mr. CALDERWOOD (United States) proposed that the study of this topic be postponed until the next meeting of the Executive Committee, in view of the short time remaining to complete the work of the present meeting.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) wished to know whether any deadline had been set for the completion of the Committee's work.

^{12/} Ibid., Resolution XI.

Dr. GONZALEZ (Assistant Director, PASB) pointed out that the Secretariat had not taken any decision in this connection. The official closing date of the present Meeting was that fixed at the 24th Meeting of the Executive Committee, and it was for the Committee to change the date if it felt this necessary.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that, in view of the late hour, the question raised by the United States Representative should be dealt with during the afternoon session.

It was so agreed.

The session was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

PRECIS MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH PLENARY SESSION

Mexico, D.F.

Friday, 29 April 1955, at 3:20 p.m.

Chairman: Dr. Alberto BISSOT, Jr. Panama

(Later): Dr. Lucien PIERRE-NOEL Haiti

Secretary: Dr. Miguel E. BUSTAMANTE Pan American
Sanitary
Bureau

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TOPIC 16: MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY ORGANIZATION HELD
AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS (Document CE25/11)

The CHAIRMAN called the session to order.

The SECRETARY read Document CE25/11, containing the background information on the subject, a proposed resolution, and a model for an agreement between the host government and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained the reasons for including Articles 12 and 13 in the model draft. Prior to the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference, the government of the host country used to defray all the expenses, including those of preparing the records. At the XII Conference, for example, the Government of Venezuela charged the Bureau with preparing and printing the documents, but defrayed the cost of this work. It has been felt that the cost of preparing and publishing the Final Report, minutes, scientific papers, and other documents should be borne by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) thought that the document under discussion was extraordinarily important, and stated that his Government had not received it prior to the departure of the Argentine Representative for Mexico. For this reason, he lacked precise instructions from his Government on the subject. By way of personal comment, he objected to Article 9, under which the government of the host country commits itself to deposit with the Bureau a given amount of money to cover rental of simultaneous-interpretation equipment and other expenditures for office supplies, transportation, etc., which would be chargeable to the government and would have to be paid in the United States. The article, he said, expressed a certain lack of confidence in the governments. Article 11, in his opinion, requests privileges and immunities which have not yet been defined with sufficient clarity. Articles 4 and 5 establish truly serious commitments for the governments. He proposed that note be taken of the document and that a recommendation be made to the Director that he transmit it as soon as possible to the governments for study. He also thought that the wording of paragraph 2 of the operative part should be clarified.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) raised the question as to whether the Members of the Executive Committee did or did not act as representatives of their respective governments.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) explained that Article 24 of the WHO Constitution provides that "The Board shall consist of eighteen persons designated by as many Members. The Health Assembly,

taking into account an equitable geographical distribution, shall elect the Members entitled to designate a person to serve on the Board." This article has given rise to many discussions, and four years ago an attempt was made to modify it. Members of the Executive Board of the WHO do not receive instructions from their governments, and there have been cases in which a person has strongly defended a viewpoint on the Board and later been forced to oppose it in the Assembly, on instructions from his government. The seven Members meeting here, he said, constitute the executive body of the Directing Council and act on behalf of twenty-one governments.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) stated that, since it had been established that the Members of the Executive Committee act as representatives of their governments, he seconded the proposal of the Representative of Argentina.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to take note of Document CE25/11, and to recommend that the Director transmit it as soon as possible to the governments for study and that he include this topic on the agenda of the next meeting of the Executive Committee. 13/

TOPIC 17: REPORT ON THE USE OF THE EMERGENCY REVOLVING FUND (Document CE25/22)

The SECRETARY read Document CE25/22.

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) thanked the Director of the Bureau for having met so promptly the request for assistance made by the Government of Haiti in October 1954, when a hurricane struck that country and endangered the health of the population in the areas affected.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) thought that this was a proper occasion to praise the high sense of responsibility shown by the Government of Haiti.

The CHAIRMAN, interpreting the wishes of the Executive Committee, expressed the Committee's satisfaction at the efficient manner in which the Bureau had provided emergency assistance to the Government of Haiti and at the speed with which this country had repaid to the Emergency Revolving Fund the amount expended by the Bureau in providing the emergency assistance.

13/ Ibid., Resolution XII.

DECISION TAKEN

It was unanimously agreed to take note of Document CE25/22 presented by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau 44

TOPIC 4: PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR 1956
(Document CE25/2 and Corrigendum)

Report of the Working Party (Document CE25/27, Rev.1)

The SECRETARY read the report of the Working Party on the Proposed Program and Budget for 1956 (Document CE25/27, Rev.1)

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) asked what justification there was for the fear that public health programs might receive less emphasis in the programs of Technical Assistance. He said he would appreciate receiving information as to the reason for this concern, so that he could form a view on the extent of the problem. He also wished to know why it is felt that the Director should study the possibility that the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center be operated by another agency within the Inter-American system, rather than by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Dr. BRADY (United States) answered on behalf of the Working Party. Concerning the question on Technical Assistance, he stated that the Economic and Social Council had authorized the countries to design their respective Technical Assistance programs. This fact affects the health field in some countries because, in using the authority given them, some governments may reduce the amount of assistance assigned to health projects. With regard to the health movement in general, countries are protected from too great a fluctuation next year, because the total amount of money that the WHO will receive from the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance will be at least 85% of the amount received in the previous year. However, it is timely for the health authorities of the governments to inquire into the status of the so-called "Integrated Country Program" within their countries, so as to find out whether the programs they are concerned with are receiving adequate consideration within their own countries. There is a more optimistic side to this question. There will not necessarily be reductions in the national health programs; on the contrary, there may be more health programs in each country, provided the health authorities present such projects sufficiently in advance and in such a manner that the respective governments will recognize their importance within the over-all program of economic development. These considerations had led the Working Party to include in its report the paragraph suggesting the advisability that the Director inform the health authorities in the various countries of the present situation and

of the necessity for health authorities to call to the attention of their respective governments the importance of health programs within the over-all Technical Assistance program. In reply to the second point raised by the Representative of Argentina, concerning the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, he recalled that the Center had its origin in Resolution XX of the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference (1950) to the effect that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau would operate such a center with funds made available from the Organization of American States. During the ensuing years, the Bureau operated the Center. The 1956 annual budget is estimated at \$330,000, provided by the Organization of American States from the Technical Cooperation Program fund and turned over to the Bureau for the operation of the Center. When the resolution was taken at the XIII Conference, there was considerable debate as to whether a health organization should undertake activities that were primarily agricultural. It was said, at the time, that the Pan American Sanitary Organization had veterinarians on its staff and was competent to operate an agency such as the Center. The resolution was adopted with the provision that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau would operate the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center until such time as there existed, within the Inter-American system, an appropriate specialized agency to take over such agricultural activities. During the past year one agricultural organization criticized the activities of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau because the Center had sent into the field experts who, it seems, gave advice contrary to that given by an official agricultural agency. He said that he did not know the details of the case but thought it was not advisable for the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to carry on activities that are primarily agricultural and that may lead to further administrative difficulties. Probably, the reactions of health experts would be just as unfavorable if an agricultural agency were to interfere in health activities. It should also be taken into account that, since the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is operating the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center,

man-hours of the PASB must be used that are not directly promoting human health. When the Working Party suggested that the Director study this question, it did not recommend the adoption of measures for immediate application, but rather that he confer with other authorities and perhaps, if it were the wish of the Executive Committee, that he convey some of these views to the agricultural agencies, which certainly should be more concerned than the PASB with the success of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that he was speaking only informatively, and not in his capacity as Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. He thought that one would have

to acknowledge the fact that, in the field of agricultural activities, there does not exist the same unification of operations of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations and of the Organization of American States as in the health field. In the latter, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the World Health Organization work jointly. But this unity of action is lacking in the agricultural sphere. It would be perfectly proper for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to criticize the WHO for acting in the foot-and-mouth disease field. However, the reasons for which the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is acting in this field are perfectly clear, and at no time has the Organization of American States abandoned its agricultural activities, to leave them in the hands of the FAO. Therefore, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau should not pay heed to any criticism, unless it emanates from the corresponding specialized agency of the Organization of American States. That specialized agency was the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, which was officially collaborating with the Pan American Sanitary Organization. He emphasized that he was only explaining the actual situation, without giving a personal opinion or voicing the opinion of the Director as to whether or not the Pan American Sanitary Organization should continue its activities in that particular sphere.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) thanked Dr. Brady and the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau for their information; for, although something of what they had said could be read between the lines of the Working Party's report, it had been necessary to explain the situation more fully.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that everything possible had been done to inform the authorities of all the countries as to the future problem with respect to Technical Assistance. But it is necessary to stress this question, and in so doing it would be advisable for the Director to have the full support of a decision of the Executive Committee, because for some months now the need has existed for the various governments to define the situation with respect to each country. The Zone Representatives of the Pan American Sanitary Organization have participated in the repeated steps taken in this matter.

Dr. BRADY (United States) thought that, because of the importance of the matter, it should be the subject of a resolution. Since a modification of the report of the Working Party would not be sufficient to produce the desired result, the Executive Committee should adopt a resolution. He suggested the following text:

"THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

"CONSIDERING the fact that the integrated country programs operated under the United Nations Expanded Program of Technical Assistance will soon be submitted to the Technical Assistance Board,

RESOLVES:

"To recommend that the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau reiterate to the health authorities of the Member Countries the need for presenting their project proposals regarding the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance in sufficient time to ensure their receiving adequate consideration, and that the said authorities call to the attention of their governments the importance that public health programs have within the total country program of Technical Assistance."

The CHAIRMAN summarized the discussion and proposed the adoption of the following: the proposed resolution presented by the Representative of the United States, which would take the form of a separate resolution; and the report of the Working Party and the Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau for 1956 submitted by the Director and to be transmitted to the VIII Meeting of the Directing Council.

DECISION TAKEN

The proposal set forth by the Chairman was unanimously approved.^{15/}

Dr. PIERRE-NOEL (Haiti) then took the Chair.

ATTENDANCE OF ZONE REPRESENTATIVES AT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Dr. BISSOT (Panama) requested that, although all topics on the order of business had been discussed, the matter of attendance of Zone Representatives at Executive Committee meetings be reconsidered. He said that some Members of the Directing Council had made this request, and he read a letter from Dr. Juan Alwood Paredes, Director General of Public Health of El Salvador, suggesting the advisability that the Zone Representatives again attend these meetings.

15/ Ibid., Resolutions XIV and XV.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that he would abide by any decision of the Executive Committee, but he wished to report that a week-long meeting had previously been held with the Zone Representatives, instead of having them present at all the sessions. In this way, they submitted their problems, views, and suggestions in an over-all form. At the moment, the Zone Representatives were working on the 1957 budget and other projects.

Dr. GARCIA SANCHEZ (Observer, Mexico) did not agree that the Zone Representatives should attend the sessions, because this would mean a complete paralysis of all Zone activities while meetings of the various bodies of the Pan American Sanitary Organization were being held. Moreover, all the explanations necessary for discussion of the topics had been received during this meeting.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) agreed with the Observer for Mexico.

DECISION TAKEN

It was agreed not to reconsider the question of the attendance of Zone Representatives at Executive Committee meetings.

The SECRETARY reported that the signing of the Final Report would take place on Monday, 2 May, at 4:00 p.m.

The session was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

PRECIS MINUTES OF THE NINTH PLENARY SESSION

Mexico, D.F.

Monday, 2 May 1955, at 4:50 p.m.

<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr. Alberto BISSOT, Jr.	Panama
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u>	Dr. Lucien PIERRE-NOEL	Haiti
<u>Secretary:</u>	Dr. Miguel E. BUSTAMANTE	Pan American Sanitary Bureau

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The CHAIRMAN called the session to order.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF PARAGUAY AND BY
THE DIRECTOR OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) said that, before the Committee took up the business of the day, he wished to read a telegram he had received from the Government of Paraguay, as follows:

"Asunción, Paraguay, 29 April 1955 -- Dr. Enrique Zacarías Arza, Hotel del Prado, Mexico, D.F.-- Yesterday Bank of Paraguay cabled 7,553 dollars 53 cents to account City Bank New York. Quotas paid through current year. Balance 4 dollars 70 cents in favor of Paraguay. Greetings -- Ruben Acosta Fleytas."

The speaker said that he was very pleased to convey this message, adding that this payment gave further proof of the prestige enjoyed throughout the Americas by the World Health Organization and by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB) stated that, according to reports just received from the Zone Office in Lima, the Government of Peru had paid its outstanding balance to the World Health Organization and to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau up to 1954.

The CHAIRMAN, on behalf of the Executive Committee, expressed great satisfaction at the communications received from the Governments of Paraguay and Peru, stating that the defense of health depends primarily on the interest of the governments, an interest which they prove through their contributions to the Pan American Sanitary Organization and the World Health Organization.

READING, APPROVAL, AND SIGNING OF THE FINAL REPORT
(Document CE25/42)

The SECRETARY, at the request of the Chairman, read the Final Report. The CHAIRMAN put each of the resolutions and the full text of the Report to a vote.

DECISION TAKEN

The Final Report and the fifteen resolutions contained therein were approved without change.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) inquired whether the documents sent to the governments would incorporate the changes approved in the course of the discussions.

The SECRETARY replied that the suggestions made during the discussions and the corresponding documentation would be sent to the governments.

The CHAIRMAN said that, as the Final Report had been approved, he would request the Secretary to call the members of the Executive Committee, in alphabetical order by countries, in Spanish, to sign the document, followed by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the Secretary General of the Bureau, Secretary of the Committee.

The SECRETARY called the Representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, the United States, Haiti, Panama and Paraguay, who signed the English and Spanish texts of the Final Report. He then called the Director of the Bureau to sign the Report and, finally, added his own signature to the document.

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

The CHAIRMAN expressed his gratitude to His Excellency Adolfo Ruiz Cortines, President of the United States of Mexico, to the Government of Mexico, and to the Minister of Public Health and Welfare, to the Organizing Committee of the Eighth World Health Assembly, and to the Rector of the National University, for all the facilities made available for the meeting on the magnificent premises of University City. He announced that the Secretary would read the letters of appreciation to be sent, on behalf of the Executive Committee, to Their Excellencies Luis Padilla Nervo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Ignacio Morones Prieto, Minister of Public Health and Welfare, and to Dr. Nabor Carrillo Flores, Rector of the National University of Mexico. He also expressed appreciation to the Mexican press for the publicity given to the work of the Committee.

The SECRETARY read the messages to which the Chairman had referred, and they were unanimously approved by the Members of the Executive Committee.

Dr. SEGURA (Argentina) expressed his gratitude to all the members of the Secretariat of the 25th Meeting of the Executive Committee, for their diligence in preparing all the material necessary for the progress of the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said he was gratified by the statement of the Representative of Argentina, a statement that he had intended to make before the closing of the session.

Dr. BRADY (United States) said that the meeting coming to a close was one of the most successful Executive Committee meetings that he had attended. Some of the reasons for this opinion had already been stated, but he wished to emphasize the outstanding performance of the Chairman and of the Secretariat. The Representative of Haiti had shown great skill and judgement in presiding over the meetings of the Working Party that had studied the Proposed Program and Budget of the Bureau. He added that all those who had taken part in the meeting had cooperated in attaining common goals and that such cooperation was the key to the success achieved.

Dr. ZACARIAS ARZA (Paraguay) thanked the authorities of Mexico and praised the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and his associates for their conscientious work. He stressed his great interest in the meeting, in which he had gained experience that he would place in the service of public health of Paraguay.

Dr. JIMENEZ GANDICA (Colombia) joined in praising the Secretariat for its work. He added that this was the first time that Colombia had served on the Executive Committee and that this participation would result in unquestionable benefit to his country. For this reason, he felt that all the countries that had not yet served on the Executive Committee should, in the future, take part in its work. He said that in the future he would be a spokesman in his country for the programs of the Organization.

Dr. RODRIGUES (Brazil) joined in these expressions of appreciation.

The CHAIRMAN voiced his thanks to the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, his technical staff, and all the members of the Secretariat, adding that the success of the present meeting was due to the interest shown by all the representatives.

Dr. SOPER (Director, PASB), on behalf of the Bureau staff and on his own behalf, said that he was grateful to the members of the Executive Committee for their kind words. He reminded them that the meeting of the Mexico-United States Border Public Health Association would soon be held in Mexico. This Association, founded during the early years of the World War, is semiofficial in character, and, although a representative of Mexico, a representative of the United States Public Health Service, and representatives of each of the border states participate in the Association, no special, signed agreement exists between the Governments of Mexico and the United States. The El Paso Office has been serving as the secretariat of the Association, organizing the annual meetings. These meetings, which are of great interest, have been

attended by more than three hundred persons. He invited all the members of the Executive Committee to attend the meetings of this Association, inasmuch as its work serves as an example of effective collaboration between public health authorities.

The SECRETARY stated that he would later provide the members of the Executive Committee with more detailed information concerning the forthcoming meeting of the Mexico-United States Border Public Health Association.

CLOSING BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE 25th MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The CHAIRMAN declared the 25th Meeting of the Executive Committee closed.

The session was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

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GENERAL INDEX TO THE TOPICS DISCUSSED
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