

*executive committee of
the directing council*



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
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WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



84th Meeting
Washington, D.C.
June 1980

Provisional Agenda Item 15

CE84/13 (Eng.)
24 April 1980
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

REPORT ON THE PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION WITH NICARAGUA

The XXVI Meeting of the Directing Council of the Organization, in its session of 1 October 1979, following a presentation by the Minister of Public Health of Nicaragua, Dr. César Amador Kühl, on the health situation in his country, and a report by the Special Committee designated by the Council to plan the contribution and technical assistance to Dominica, the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua, adopted Resolution VII "Health Care in the Program of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua."

In this Resolution the Council approved the PAHO/WHO operating budget for the biennium 1980-1981 presented by the Government of Nicaragua, which raised the amount originally approved from the Organization's regular funds (included in the Proposed Program and Budget Estimates for 1980-1981 (Official Document 161)) from US\$902,200 to \$1,426,300.

In the second operative paragraph of Resolution VII, the Directing Council instructed the Executive Committee to examine the progress of the program of technical cooperation with Nicaragua, to study it at its 84th Meeting, and to make proposals, as appropriate and necessary, to the XXVII Meeting of the Directing Council.

The present summary of the technical cooperation activities carried on during 1979 and those programmed and in execution for the biennium 1980-1981 is offered for the information of the Committee.

The cooperation provided during 1979 falls into two separate periods. The first period spans the first half of the year up to the assumption of power by the Government of National Reconstruction, and the second runs from July to the end of the year.

In the first period the Organization's cooperation began as originally projected in 1978 and in accordance with the PAHO programming and evaluation system (AMPES) for the country under its country programs. This cooperation could be carried out only partially, however, owing to the state of turmoil in the country at that time.

When the Government of National Reconstruction came to power, the Organization's resources allotted to Nicaragua were assigned for cooperation with the country in a national emergency that was aggravated by a considerable loss of operational facilities, both for health care and for meeting other basic needs of the population.

Since its accession in July 1979, the Government of National Reconstruction has had the technical cooperation of five permanent staff members of the PASB, in the areas of health service development, nutrition, malaria and environmental sanitation. The country has also received 447 man-days of additional cooperation from various levels in the Bureau, chiefly in the areas of human resources, sanitation, maternal and child care services, and malaria.

Because of the destruction brought by the civil war, the Organization also provided such emergency financial assistance as it could, which came to \$230,000, in addition to the preliminary contribution of \$408,800 for 1979 from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), which helped toward the acquisition of drugs, biologicals and foods, and the replacement of some equipment and vehicles.

In the second half of 1979 the Organization also cooperated with the Government in its efforts to obtain extrabudgetary funds for priority programs. It collaborated with the authorities in drawing up the IDB loan project for the program to improve health services and extend rural coverage, which includes \$520,000 in technical assistance funds for the period 1980-1982. It also contributed, out of an amount of \$900,000 for the period 1980-1981, to help draw up the program for the UNFPA in the maternal and child health area, and helped the Government obtain \$2,000,000 from the United Nations Capital Development Fund, which will be used to acquire equipment and supplies for the malaria program.

During the biennium 1980-1981, PAHO will serve as executing agency for a variety of projects totaling \$4,982,300, of which \$1,426,300 will come from the PAHO/WHO regular budget. The latter figure is 58 per cent more than the originally established amount of \$902,200 given in Official Document 161.

The health authorities have shaped their policy and strategies and determined the priority programs and national components for which the Organization's technical cooperation will be needed. The program and budget discussions produced agreement on the areas in which the Organization is to collaborate with the Government out of the PAHO/WHO regular budget, as summarized in the appended table. This table shows not only the uses to be made of the \$524,100 increase in the operating budget for 1980-1981 in Nicaragua relative to the originally approved budget, but also the emphasis that the health authorities have placed on the program areas and the components of the cooperation.

The Organization's technical cooperation for the biennium 1980-1981 is to be rendered in seven program areas, and consists of the following budgetary allocations:

	<u>US\$</u>	<u>%</u>
Direct technical cooperation by permanent consultants (122 man/months)	382,900	26.8
Direct technical cooperation by short-term consultants (1,470 man/days)	200,700	14.2
Courses and seminars	427,000	29.9
Fellowships (34 fellowship/months)	42,500	3.0
Supplies	300,000	21.0
Operating expenses	<u>73,200</u>	<u>5.1</u>
Total	<u>1,426,300</u> =====	<u>100.0</u> =====

It should be noted that the number of man/months of permanent consultants has been reduced to almost two thirds of the figure originally programmed in 1979, while that of man/days of short-term consultants has been increased almost three and half times.

The fellowship/months for the biennium 1980-1981 have been reduced by 56, or 62 per cent, from the number originally programmed.

The Government has given priority to personnel training in courses, seminars and other local instruction arrangements, and has reduced the allocation for fellowships for training abroad to less than half.

The item for supplies has been increased by \$299,000, which will go chiefly to the areas of disease control and extension of the coverage of rural health services.

It can be seen in the appended table that the area of greatest impact is manpower development and instruction, which has been increased more than \$292,000. There are also other increases of \$240,000 for the area of epidemiology and laboratory services and of \$125,000 for the extension of rural coverage.

It can be seen that the Government felt a need to request the allocation of regular funds of the Organization to the areas of nursing and sanitary engineering education, which will be conveniently covered by extrabudgetary funds, both from the nonreimbursable technical cooperation contracted for by the Government with the Inter-American Development Bank and with other sources such as the World Bank and the United States Agency for International Development.

Changes have also been made in the use of PAHO/WHO regular funds in programs for the institutional development of health services, and in malaria control and eradication, for which there are available the aforementioned extrabudgetary funds, totaling \$520,000, put up by the IDB, and \$2,000,000 from the United Nations Capital Development Fund, to be applied to each of the aforementioned programs and of those for which PAHO/WHO would be the executing agency.

Apart from the cooperation to be provided out of regular funds assigned to the country, PAHO/WHO has programmed the support of 2,047 man-days from the resources of the Area III Office in Guatemala City, valued at more than \$450,000. The Government will also receive support in areas in which it is specifically requested from consultants of the Pan American Centers and other regional establishments.

To these resources is added a contribution of \$10,000 from the International Union Against Tuberculosis for the purchase of drugs in 1980 for Nicaragua's tuberculosis control program. Recently the Pan American Development Foundation, a private organization affiliated with the Organization of American States (OAS), sent \$148,651 in equipment, instruments and other medical material as a special contribution.

In concrete terms, between August and December 1979 the Organization rendered the Government of Nicaragua the cooperation that was needed in the current social and economic situation of the health sector and the country as a whole. It has also complied with the mandate of the Directing Council to increase the operating budget for 1980-1981

with all the changes approved by the Nicaraguan authorities, which conveys how flexible the Organization's technical cooperation has been made to enable it to adjust to the needs of the country.

There has been coordination with WHO for the donation of a sizable quantity of vaccines offered by the Government of the USSR for the Expanded Program on Immunization, to meet the needs anticipated by the Nicaraguan health authorities during 1980.

Just as important as the joint programming of PAHO/WHO technical cooperation to meet needs in areas to which the Nicaraguan Government assigns priority is periodic joint evaluation of the Organization's material and financial operations, and administrative monitoring machinery has been established both at the Field Office level and through the Operations Management Office at Headquarters so that the cooperation will be rendered efficiently, with dispatch, and in accordance with the terms of reference established with the authorities.

Apart from this international cooperation, Nicaragua has adopted technical cooperation among developing countries, which has acquired particular significance because of the relations that have developed with several countries in the Hemisphere.

In addition, in keeping with the strategy of intersectoral coordination adopted by both the Ministry of Health of Nicaragua and PAHO/WHO, beginning in May 1980 greater emphasis will be placed on technical cooperation with the Ministries of Agricultural Development and Education, and with the Institutes of Water Supply and Sewerage and of Reconstruction of Managua.

We expect that international and bilateral technical cooperation in the health field in Nicaragua will materially contribute to attainment of the national goals set by the Government of National Reconstruction.

NICARAGUA: OPERATING BUDGET 1980-1981

Current distribution of PAHO regular funds and changes made in their allocation among program areas and components from those shown in Official Document 161, Proposed Program and Budget Estimates

Program Area (PAHO/WHO Project)	Personnel*		Consultants		Courses and Seminars US\$	Operating Expenses US\$	Fellowships		Supplies US\$	Total US\$
	Months	US\$	Days	US\$			Months	US\$		
OPERATING BUDGET 1980-1981 (CURRENT)										
Malaria control and eradication (NIC-0200)	24	104,100	400	54,600	35,000	-	-	-	-	193,700
Environmental health (NIC-2000)	24	102,600	120	16,400	24,000	-	4	5,000	20,000	168,000
Epidemiology and laboratory services (NIC-4300)	-	-	-	-	68,000	-	-	-	180,000	248,000
General planning and coordination of cooperation (NIC-5000)	71	162,500	-	-	-	73,200	-	-	-	235,700
Development of health services (NIC-5100)	-	-	150	20,500	40,000	-	-	-	-	60,500
Extension of rural coverage (NIC-5102)	3	13,700	400	54,600	60,000	-	-	-	100,000	228,300
Human resources and instruction (NIC-6100)	-	-	400	54,600	200,000	-	30	37,500	-	292,100
Total	122	382,900	1,470	200,700	427,000	73,200	34	42,500	300,000	1,426,300
CHANGES FROM ORIGINAL VERSION OF <u>OFFICIAL DOCUMENT 161</u> , PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET ESTIMATES										
Malaria control and eradication	-24	-102,300	+400	+54,600	+35,000	-	-6	-6,300	-	+19,000
Environmental health	-	-	-	+200	+24,000	-	-2	-1,300	+19,000	+41,900
Nursing services**	-12	-44,500	-	-	-	-	-6	-6,300	-	-50,800
Epidemiology and laboratory services	-	-	-	-	+68,000	-	-6	-6,300	+180,000	+241,700
General planning and coordination of cooperation	-1	-13,700	-	-	-	-100	-	-	-	-13,800
Development of health services	-	-	-95	-13,600	+600	-	-66	-69,000	-	-82,000
Extension of rural coverage	-21	-89,500	+400	+54,600	+60,000	-	-	-	+100,000	+125,100
Human resources and instruction	-	-	+400	+54,600	+200,000	-	+30	+37,500	-	+292,100
Education in sanitary engineering**	-	-	-60	-8,100	-3,000	-	-	-	-	-11,100
Total	-58	-250,000	+1,045	+142,300	+384,600	-100	-56	-51,700	+299,000	+524,100

*Includes duty travel

**Program areas in which PAHO/WHO technical cooperation has not been regarded as necessary