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PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER

The conclusions of the joint PAHO/IICA study on the possibility of transferring the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), and the resolution on that transfer approved by the Executive Committee of IICA in its Third Meeting, are presented herein for information.

Annexes

STUDY OF THE POSSIBILITY OF TRANSFERRING THE PAN AMERICAN
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER FROM THE PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH ORGANIZATION (PAHO) TO THE INTER-AMERICAN
INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE (IICA)

(PAHO Translation)

Conclusions

In the framework of the Pan American Health Organization the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center has developed to a technical level of the first importance, which is widely acknowledged in the international scientific community and by every country that enjoys its technical cooperation.

The Organization's support has been decisive for the growth and strengthening of the Center and for attainment of the scientific prestige it now enjoys, and also for the full deployment of its technical cooperation capabilities for the benefit of the countries in the Hemisphere.

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the principal international agency for agricultural cooperation in the Hemisphere, has expressed interest in studying the implications of a transfer of the Center to its Organization and the responsibilities such a transfer would entail for it as an agency with an established animal health program and boasting a wide experience and long career of technical cooperation in the countries of the Americas, that would be consonant with the purposes of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center.

The present study represents an attempt to examine in closest possible detail the present structure of the Center and the organizational and functional structures of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) on order to determine the feasibility of a possible transfer of the Center from one organization to the other and the possible consequences of such a transfer.

In the decisions of the Governing Bodies of the two organizations on the permanent administrative situation of the Center it would be most desirable that both its technical and administrative aspects be left intact so that it may go on functioning with its customary high efficiency unimpaired. This will require consideration of the following:

- a) A guarantee by the host country, Brazil, to go on providing the Center with the facilities it needs to operate, in as full measure and with the same goodwill as in the past.
- b) A guarantee that the Center's current income will be maintained and progressively raised to keep pace with normal cost increases and the countries' requirements for services.
- c) A guarantee that the Center will continue to be staffed with the same highly qualified professionals and technicians so that it will retain its present high level of scientific excellence.

- d) A guarantee that the Center will retain its present streamlined and efficient administrative system so that it can continue efficiently and without interruption its current activities in research and technical cooperation with the countries.

The four above points are all equally important and none should be neglected or passed over when the time comes for the Governing Bodies of the two organizations to decide on the Center's permanent situation.

In relation to the first point, point (a), if the transfer were decided upon, a new agreement similar to the one now in effect between the Government of Brazil and PAHO would have to be signed between that Government and IICA as the recipient agency.

In regard to the second point, point (b), if it were decided that the transfer is to be made, the Member Countries of PAHO would have to agree, and take action, to transfer to the recipient institution such proportion of their present regular quota contributions to PAHO as is appropriate for the operation of the Center.

In relation to point (c), in the event it were decided that the Center is to be transferred, every effort would have to be made to ensure that the international and local professional staff and general service personnel with long experience in the work of the Center were continued in their posts with conditions of employment as to pay, benefits and pension entitlements similar to those now in effect.

On point (d), if the transfer were decided, the Center would have to continue its present internal administrative system, which is of proven effectiveness, and the administrative and technical infrastructure of the recipient institution would have to be broadened to enable it to provide the operational support that the Center requires. The funds spent by PAHO at its Headquarters for the administrative and technical support of the CPFA are placed at the equivalent of US\$886,320 for the 1982-1983 biennium. The recipient institution would require an addition to its budget in a similar amount.

From the analysis made in the present study it is concluded that there are four options for the final situation of the Center, as follows:

- a) A transfer of the Center to IICA as a Regular Center of the Institute.
- b) A transfer of the Center to IICA under a new arrangement to be established for its administration as a Special Center of the Institute.
- c) A transfer of the Center to IICA as an Associate Center of the Institute.
- d) Retention of the Center in PAHO under a special agreement with IICA allowing this Institute to participate in the Center's activities.

Following is an analysis of each of the foregoing options:

a) Transfer of the Center to IICA as a Regular Center of the Institute

Requisite Conditions

- the Center's entire staff would have to be transferred to the present pension fund and wage and benefit scales of IICA.
- Additional administrative and technical resources would have to be taken on at IICA headquarters for the institutional support of the Center, and equivalent to those employed by PAHO for that purpose.
- The Center's staff pension fund would have to be liquidated.
- PAHO would have to pay the staff of the Center indemnities for termination and abolition of their posts.

Advantages and Disadvantages

- The Center would be placed in an international agency directly concerned with the agricultural sector.
- Such a transfer would have a negative impact on the staff of the Center, and qualified personnel might prefer to resign.
- PAHO would face the possibility of problems in dealing with appeals from staff of the Center.

b) Transfer of the Center to IICA under a New Arrangement for its Administration as a Special Center of the Institute

Requisite Conditions

- Arrangements would have to be made for continuation of the staff of the Center in the PAHO/United Nations Pension Fund, and scales of wages and staff benefits similar to those of PAHO would have to be established for the Special Center.
- PAHO would have to lend its support to the efforts to arrange for the continuation of the staff of the Center in the United Nations Pension Fund.
- Additional administrative and technical resources, equivalent to those employed by PAHO for the institutional support of the Center would have to be implemented for that purpose in IICA's Headquarters structure.

Advantages and Disadvantages

- The Center would be placed in an international center directly concerned with agriculture.
- The Center's operations would be unaffected, for there would be no substantial change in its personnel or its administrative system.
- An undesirable atmosphere could be generated in IICA, and especially among the local professional and general service personnel, by the differences between their salaries and benefits and those accorded to the staff of the Special Center.

c) Transfer of the Center to IICA as an Associate Center

Requisite Conditions

- Arrangements would have to be made for continuance of the staff of the Center in the PAHO/United Nations Pension Fund, and scales of salaries and benefits similar to those of PAHO would have to be implemented for the Associated Center.
- PAHO would have to lend its support to the efforts to arrange for continuation of the staff of the Center in the United Nations Pension Fund.
- A special organizational and administrative system would have to be implemented for the administrative and technical support of the Center with additional resources equivalent to those employed by PAHO for the support of the Center from its Headquarters.

Advantages and Disadvantages

- The Center's operations would be unaffected, for there would be no substantial change in its personnel or its administrative system.
- The internal situation of IICA would not be affected because the Associated Center could establish special administrative and personnel systems.
- The administrative and financial autonomy that would be conferred by the status of Associated Center could be a source of future problems.

d) Retention of the Center in PAHO Under a Special Agreement with IICA Allowing this Institute to Participate in the Center's Activities

- Implementation of an agreement between PAHO and IICA for the establishment of arrangements under which IICA could be involved in the Center's policies and strategies and in the conduct of its programs and projects so that they could be expanded into other areas of technical cooperation that the Institute's member countries might require.

Advantages and Disadvantages

- There would be no structural change in the Center's administration or personnel system, and it would hence continue to operate normally.
- While IICA would be able to participate in the Center's technical activities, the concern to place the Center in an international agency in the agricultural sector could remain latent and re-emerge in the future.

(PAHO Translation)

IICA/CE/Res. 7 (III-0/83)
11 August 1983
Original: Spanish

RESOLUTION No. 7

STUDY OF THE POSSIBILITY OF TRANSFERRING THE PAN AMERICAN
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER FROM PAHO TO IICA

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, in its Third Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

The Study of the Possibility of Transferring the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center from the Pan American Health Organization to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture; and

The Report of the IICA/PAHO Working Group on the Possibility of Transferring the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center from PAHO to IICA, analyzing the financial implications of option C and the implementation of option D in the aforementioned study.

CONSIDERING:

That option D, presented in the Study, presents fewer difficulties and assures the best prospects for the continued operation of the Center without interruption of its activities for cooperation with the countries of the Hemisphere;

That to implement option D of the Study it is suggested that a Special Agreement be entered into between IICA and PAHO on measures for the mutual reinforcement of the programs and projects being conducted by the two institutions for the promotion of animal health in their member countries;

That IICA and PAHO have opened negotiations toward the conclusion of a General Agreement for the coordination and strengthening of the operations of these specialized agencies of the inter-American system; and

That the Directing Council will meet in September 1983,

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to the Inter-American Board of Agriculture the adoption of option D presented in the Study, which calls for the retention of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in the Pan American Health Organization and the maintenance of contact

between that Center and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture under a Special Agreement with a view to good coordination and appropriate operating arrangements between the two institutions, especially for the conduct of additional joint animal health activities through the Center, in accordance with the requests and priorities of the member countries of the two organizations.

2. To request the Director-General to convey the content of this resolution to the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau with the request that he present it to the Directing Council of PAHO for decision in its Meeting in September 1983.
3. To authorize the Director-General to continue the necessary negotiations with the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau toward the signing of the Special Agreement referred to in paragraph 1, above.