

XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference XIV Regional Committee Meeting



Minneapolis, Minnesota, U.S.A. August-September 1962

Draft Agenda Item 1.9

CSP16/22 (Eng.) 20 July 1962 ORIGINAL: SPANISH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Presented by Dr. Victorio Vicente Olguín (Argentina), Chairman of the 45th and 46th Meetings of the Executive Committee.

In conformity with Article 4-F of the Constitution I have the honor to report to the Pan American Sanitary Conference on the work of the Executive Committee for the period October 1961 to September 1962, during which it held its 45th and 46th meetings.

The 45th Meeting was held in Washington, D. C., on 13 October 1961, after the close of the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council. At that meeting the following Representatives, whose countries had been elected to the Committee by the Directing Council, took office: Dr. Manuel A. Sánchez Vigil (Nicaragua), Dr. Carlos S. Quirós (Peru), and Dr. José Bove Arteaga (Uruguay). The following Representatives were also present at the meeting: Dr. Victorio Vicente Olguín (Argentina), Dr. Gustavo Fricke (Chile), Dr. Alberto Aguilar Rivas (El Salvador), Dr. Raymond G. Hyronimus (France), Dr. R. M. F. Charles (United Kingdom), Dr. James Watt and Mr. Howard B. Calderwood (United States of America).

At the 45th Meeting I had the honor to be elected chairman of the Committee for the period covered by this report. I thus presided over the 45th and the 46th meetings of the Committee. The Representative of Nicaragua, Dr. Manuel A. Sánchez Vigil, was elected Vice-Chairman.

The following Representatives attended the 46th Meeting of the Committee, which was held in Washington, D. C., from 23 to 27 April 1962: Dr. Victorio Vicente Olguín (Argentina), Dr. Alfredo Leonardo Bravo (Chile), Dr. Alvaro de Angulo (Colombia), Dr. Carlos Antonio Díaz del Pinal (El Salvador), Dr. Manuel A. Sánchez Vigil (Nicaragua), Dr. Alfredo Lynch Cordero (Peru) and Dr. Alberto Bertolini (Uruguay). The following attended the meeting as Observers: Dr. Celia María Girona Fernández (Cuba), Mr. William Bowdler, Mr. Howard B. Calderwood, Mr. Carter Hills, Dr. Russell Lee, Dr. Robert T. Scholes, and Mr. Simon Wilson (United States of America), Mr. Howard Salzman, Jr., Mr. Manuel Canyes and Mrs. Alzora Hale Eldridge (Organization of American States), and Mr. Humberto Olivero and Mr. Rafael Suárez-Guzmán (International Development Bank).

Pursuant to Rule 12 of the Committee's Rules of Procedure the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is ex-officio secretary of the Committee. Accordingly, Dr. Abraham Horwitz acted as secretary.

Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 1961

These reports were examined at the 46th Meeting of the Committee, which took note of them and decided to transmit them to the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference. It also urged the Governments of the Organization whose quota contributions were in arrears to pay them at the earliest possible date.

Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1963

At its 46th Meeting the Committee made a thorough analysis, item by item, of the program and the budget presented by the Director. In doing so it dealt with various aspects of the Organization's activities: communicable diseases, education and training, research, health plans in relation to the goals of the Charter of Punta del Este, health activities as related to national development, changes in the organizational structure of Headquarters, standardization of administrative terminology, need for permanent liaison between the technical branches of Headquarters and the Zone offices, per diem allowances of Members of the Executive Committee, advisability of an organizational study of budgetary and administrative matters, number of posts financed by PAHO funds, smallpox eradication, medical education, Working Capital Fund, environmental sanitation, housing, and so on.

Finally, the Committee decided to submit to the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference the Proposed Program and Budget prepared by the Director, together with the observations made by the Committee, and to recommend that the Conference establish the budget level of the Pan American Health Organization for 1963 at \$5,995,000.

Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee

At its 45th Meeting the Committee approved the revised text of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee prepared by the Subcommittee on Basic Documents of the Pan American Health Organization.

Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations

A. Reports of the Subcommittee and of the Director. At its 46th Meeting the Committee expressed its appreciation of the work of the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations, approved the steps taken to date by the Director and the Permanent Subcommittee with respect to the new Headquarters building, and decided to transmit the reports of the Subcommittee and of the Director to the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference.

B. Membership of the Subcommittee. At its 45th Meeting the Committee approved the suggestion of the Director that the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations, composed of the Representatives of Argentina, Chile, and the United States of America, continue to function with its present members.

Amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

At its 46th Meeting the Committee confirmed the amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau introduced by the Director and relating mainly to the new salary scales for professional staff, post adjustment, allowance for dependent spouse, and the education grant, all of which had been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and by the Executive Board of the World Health Organization.

Salaries of Senior Officials of the Bureau

At its 46th Meeting the Committee approved the decision of the Director that the Assistant Director of the Bureau, Dr. John C. Cutler, should be Deputy Director and that the Secretary-General, Dr. Victor A. Sutter should be the Assistant Director. It also approved his proposal concerning the salaries of these two officers.

At the 46th Meeting the Committee also decided to suggest to the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference that the salary of the Director of the Bureau be increased to a level commensurate with his high position and important functions and that in addition he be granted a suitable proportion of the allowance enjoyed by other international officials.

Conditions of Employment in the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

At its 45th Meeting the Executive Committee decided to recommend to the Director of the Bureau that he establish conditions of employment for the professional staff that would assure them of adequate remuneration, a suitable pension, and especially salaries commensurate with their professional and social functions.

Report of Activities of the Pan American Health Organization under the Charter of Punta del Este

At its 46th Meeting, the Committee studied with interest the report of the Director on the activities carried out by the Pan American Health Organization in the letter and spirit of the Charter of Punta del Este. It approved the report and invited the Director to proceed with programs designed to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau in the Charter; to make every effort to secure extrabudgetary funds in support of training in planning for officials of national health services, faculty members of schools of public health, and Bureau staff; and to take the necessary steps to incorporate the Bureau fully into every

activity, mission, study, etc., related to economic development and social progress that was undertaken by international organizations such as the OAS, IADB, and ECLA, and by other governmental and nongovernmental organizations active in this field. The Committee recommended that the Governments that had not yet done so establish Health Planning Committees and relate them to the National Development Planning Committees, as soon as possible, in order to prepare the plans provided for in the Charter of Punta del Este under the Alliance for Progress program. It also recommended that they take the necessary steps to establish Coordinating Committees with other international organizations providing assistance in the health field so as to secure the greatest benefit for the health of the peoples.

PAHO Organizational Unit for Planning

At its 45th Meeting the Committee instructed the Director to present to the next meeting of the Committee a document on the establishment of a planning unit, its structure, and budgetary implications.

At its 46th Meeting, the Committee took note of the report presented by the Director in compliance with that decision, and invited him to continue to study the strengthening of planning activities along the lines of his report so that they might be able to meet the needs of the Governments for advisory services in that field, and to report further developments to the Governing Bodies in due course.

Program Budgeting

The Committee at its 45th Meeting requested the Director to present to the 46th Meeting a document that might serve as a basis for examining the possibility of adopting functional programs and budgets in the Organization.

At its 46th Meeting the Committee examined the document presented by the Director in fulfillment of that recommendation and invited him to complete such detailed studies as might be necessary for that purpose and to report thereon to the meeting of the Executive Committee to be held in the Spring of 1963.

Procurement Services to Governments of the Organization

At its 46th Meeting the Committee made a detailed examination of the report of the Director on procurement services to Governments of the Organization, and invited the Director to remind the Governments of the existence of those services and to bring to their attention the procedures and methods used by the Bureau in meeting the requests of the Governments, in the matter of the price and quality of products, and also to request them to state whether they are interested in continuing to use those services. The Committee also requested the Director to review the operation of the procurement services and, in accordance with the replies from the Governments, to submit a report on the matter to the meeting of the Committee to be held in the Spring of 1963.

Emergency Revolving Fund

At its 46th Meeting the Committee took note of the report of the Director on the transactions of the Emergency Revolving Fund, the available balance of which, at the time of presenting the report, stand at \$45,113.

Recruitment and Retention of Staff

At its 45th Meeting the Committee recommended to the Director of the Bureau that he study the conditions of employment and report on the steps that might be taken to facilitate the recruitment and retention of staff.

At its 46th Meeting the Committee examined the report presented by the Director in compliance with that recommendation, and requested him to report to the Governing Bodies in due course on such measures as he might adopt to improve the conditions of employment in the Organization. It reiterated the recommendation of the Directing Council that the Governments introduce into their legislation the provisions necessary for the protection of the rights acquired in their respective national services by officers who may be seconded to international public health agencies, and resolved to request the Governments to adopt the pertinent provisions to safeguard the tenure and pension rights of officials temporarily seconded to international health agencies.

National Health Committees

At its 46th Meeting the Committee made a detailed examination of the best way for the Bureau to plan the establishment of National Health Committees. It invited the Director to use every means at his disposal to foster the organization of such committees in the countries of the Americas in order to arouse public interest in health problems and to disseminate information about the importance of international cooperation, and to report to the Governing Bodies in due course on the results of his efforts to that end.

Arrangements for the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference, XIV Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

In view of the impossibility of holding the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference in Buenos Aires as planned, the Committee decided, at its 46th Meeting, to request the Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Director of the Bureau to consult together concerning the arrangements necessary for holding the Conference at the Headquarters of the Bureau and to convoke the Conference when the date had been established.

At the same Meeting the Committee recommended to the Director that the following procedure be adopted for the presentation and consideration at the XVI Conference of the summary reports of the Governments to which the item "Report of the Member States of the Organization on Public Health Conditions and Progress Achieved During the Period Between the XV and XVI Pan American Sanitary Conferences" referred: (a) that the summary of the four-year reports of the Governments be presented in plenary session; (b) that the Delegates of the Governments who might wish to present supplementary information on their respective countries be given the floor immediately after the presentation of the document; and (c) that, at the conclusion of the oral reports of Delegations, specific items on public health problems that were deemed to merit special study be assigned to Committee I (Technical Matters) for consideration.

Preliminary Draft Agenda for the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference, XIV Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

At its 46th Meeting the Committee approved the preliminary draft agenda for the XVI Conference prepared by the Director, and added to it item 16 of its own agenda, entitled "Letter from the Secretary General of the Organization of American States Transmitting the Final Act of the Eighth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Serving as Organ of Consultation in Application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance." It was therefore agreed not to discuss that item at the 46th Meeting of the Executive Committee.

In concluding this report, in which I have tried to give a succint and objective account of the most important decisions taken at both meetings of the Committee, I should like to thank the Members of the Executive Committee for the confidence they placed in me in electing me Chairman and for the invaluable cooperation given to me in the course of the meetings by the Vice-Chairman and by all the other Representatives. I should also like to thank the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and his staff for their efficient assistance in organizing and conducting the meetings.



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(Corrigendum to English text of Document CSP16/22)

Last sentence of the second paragraph of page 1 should read as follows:

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