

# XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference

## XVIII Regional Committee Meeting



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Provisional Agenda Item 8

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### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Article 9C of the Constitution, I have the honor to submit to the Conference this report on the work of the Executive Committee between October 1965 and September 1966, the period during which it held its 53rd and 54th Meetings. In view of the fact that the Directing Council at its XVI Meeting provided that the Executive Committee shall be officially represented by its Chairman, or any other member designated by the Committee, at the meetings of the Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization and of the Pan American Sanitary Conference, and having been so designated by the Executive Committee at its 54th Meeting, I should like to state that this is the first time that the Executive Committee will be officially represented at a meeting of that Governing Body.

At the 53rd Meeting, which was held in Washington, D.C. on 8 October 1965, after the close of the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council, the representatives of Ecuador and Guatemala, the two countries which the Directing Council had elected to the Executive Committee, took office. The following representatives were also present: Dr. Manoel José Ferreira (Brazil) Dr. Charles C. Wedderburn (Jamaica), Dr. Pedro Daniel Martín and Dr. Manuel B. Márquez Escobedo (Mexico), Dr. Alberto E. Calvo (Panama), Dr. Francisco Castillo Rey and Dr. José Luis Aponte-Villegas (Venezuela). Also present as observers were: Dr. Charles E. Williams and Mr. Howard B. Calderwood (United States of America), Dr. Gérard Philippeaux and Dr. Hubert Delva (Haiti), and Dr. Carlos Quirós Salinas (Peru).

At the 53rd Meeting, I had the honor to be elected Chairman of the Executive Committee for the period covered by this report, and therefore presided over the 53rd and 54th Meetings of the Committee. Dr. Alberto E. Calvo, the Representative of Panama, was elected Vice-Chairman.

The 54th Meeting, which was held in Washington, D.C., from 18 to 22 April 1966 was attended by the following representatives: Dr. Manoel José Ferreira (Brazil), Dr. Miguel Yepez (Ecuador), Dr. Orlando Aguilar Herrera (Guatemala), Dr. Charles C. Wedderburn (Jamaica), Dr. Manuel B. Márquez Escobedo and Dr. Ignacio Avila Cisneros (Mexico), Dr. Alberto E. Calvo (Panama), and Dr. Daniel Orellana (Venezuela). The following observers were also present: Dr. Bogoslav Juricic (Chile), Dr. Benjamin Blood and Mr. Paul Byrnes (United States of America), Mr. André Cira (France)

Dr. Carlos Quirós Salinas (Peru), Mr. Johan B. Hoekman and Miss Christine Henny (Kingdom of the Netherlands), and Mr. O. Howard Salzman, Mrs. Alzora H. Eldridge, Mr. José Carlos Ruiz, Miss Dahlia Colombo, and Miss Marietta Daniels Shephard (Organization of American States).

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

The 53rd Meeting considered the following agenda items:

Study of Resolutions of the Directing Council that are of interest to the Executive Committee

The Director of the Bureau reported on the resolutions approved by the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council which were transmitted to the Committee for its consideration or for action by the Secretariat. The resolutions in question dealt with the travel and subsistence expenses of the Official Representative of the Executive Committee at meetings of the Directing Council and the Pan American Sanitary Conference, the donations of objects of art made to the Organization for its new Headquarters building, the authorization of contributions from the Building Fund to the Special Fund for Health Promotion, the preparation of a final draft on standards for the Americas on the international transportation of human remains, and the proposed program and budget of the Organization.

The Director explained in detail what measures and steps would be taken to fulfill the instructions given by the Directing Council.

Date of the 54th Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Committee resolved to authorize the Chairman of the Executive Committee to fix the date of the 54th Meeting of the Committee in agreement with the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

In the course of the 54th Meeting of the Committee, which held nine sessions, the following agenda items were considered:

Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1967

The Committee made a careful study, item by item, of the figures of the Proposed Program and Budget for 1967, presented by the Director. In the course of the discussion various views were expressed on the activities of the Organization, special stress being laid on programs of medical care and the training of food inspectors.

The Committee decided to submit to the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference the Proposed Program and Budget for 1967 prepared by the Director, to recommend to the Conference that it establish the level of the PAHO budget for 1967 at \$9,115,680, and to recommend that the Director take into account the views expressed by the members of the Executive Committee, in particular on medical care and the training of food inspectors.

#### Report on the Collection of Quota Contributions

After making a detailed examination of the report on the collection of quota contributions presented by the Director, the Committee took note of the report and commended the Director for his efforts to obtain settlement of the outstanding arrearages; it expressed its concern, nevertheless, especially over the arrearages of more than two years standing; it recommended that the Director instruct the PAHO Zone Chiefs and PAHO Representatives in the respective countries to maintain continuous efforts to have the payment of quotas effected on a current basis and to have arrearages paid as soon as possible; it requested the Director to continue his efforts to keep the Governments amply informed of the status of quota payments and of the implications of non-payment on the prosecution of the program of the Organization; and it urged that Governments which have outstanding quotas pay them as soon as possible, and that those Governments in arrears two or more years fulfill their respective financial plans for the payment of outstanding quotas within a definite period.

#### Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 1965

After a careful study, the Committee took note of the reports and resolved to transmit them to the Pan American Sanitary Conference at its XVII Meeting. It also resolved to again draw the attention of Governments to the need for quotas to be paid as soon as possible, within the course of each financial year, and especially to the need for plans for the payments of arrears within stipulated periods to be prepared and strictly adhered to. The Committee also commended the policy followed by the Director over the years in maintaining budgetary expenditures within income, in building up the Working Capital Fund, and in creating reserves for termination costs.

#### Report on Buildings and Installations

In taking note of the report of the Director on buildings and installations, the Committee resolved to transmit it to the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, and to express its thanks to the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Surinam, Venezuela, and Spain, as well as to the Pharmaceutical Manufacturer's Association and Mrs. Carlota de Inurria for the works of art they had

donated to the new Headquarters building. It also resolved to take note of the additional space requirements for the Zone Office in Lima and to concur in the planned action of the Director to purchase a house to obtain adequate space.

#### Amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

The Committee approved the amendments to the Staff Rules of the Bureau presented by the Director which were similar to those adopted by WHO and related to salary adjustments and to editorial changes in Rules 230.2, 230.4, 235.1, 235.2, 235.3, 255.1, 255.2, 450.2, 450.3, 670.7, 730.3, 970.1, 970.2, 970.3, 970.4, and 1110.4.

#### Transfer of Funds from Part V to other Parts of the PAHO Regular Budget for 1966

The Executive Committee authorized the Director to transfer a maximum of \$260,000 from Part V to other Parts of the PAHO regular budget for 1966, as necessary to meet the additional personnel costs arising from the salary increases.

#### Salaries of the Deputy Director and Assistant Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

The Executive Committee approved the proposal of the Director fixing the salary of the Deputy Director at \$21,000 per annum and that of the Assistant Director at \$20,000 per annum.

#### Planning of Hospitals and other Health Facilities

The Executive Committee, after having examined the report of the Director on the planning of hospitals and other health services, submitted pursuant to Resolution XVI of the 52nd Meeting of the Executive Committee, took note of the report; confirmed the steps the Director had taken to promote the coordination of medical care services in the countries; instructed the Director to continue his negotiations with the Inter-American Development Bank to obtain financial support for programs for the building of hospitals and other health facilities, within the framework of national health planning, as part of economic and social development; and recommended to the Governments that they include in their delegations to the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference high officials of the administration of health services both from the Ministries of Health and from Social Security Institutes so as to ensure a full treatment of the theme at the Technical Discussions.

#### Representation of the Executive Committee at the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, XVIII Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

The Executive Committee resolved to designate as its official representative at the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, Dr. Manoel José Ferreira, Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Emergency Revolving Fund

The Executive Committee took note of the report of the Director on the Emergency Revolving Fund; invited the Governments when they received assistance from the Fund to reimburse the amounts advanced as soon as possible; and recommended to the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference to increase the ceiling of the Fund to \$100,000 and to authorize an amount of \$25,000 to be transferred to it from the Working Capital Fund for this purpose.

Date of the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, XVIII Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

The Executive Committee confirmed its approval of the date of 26 September 1966 fixed by the Director for the opening of the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, which it was agreed should run provisionally until 15 October. It also recommended to the Conference that it devote more time than in previous years to this year's Technical Discussions.

Provisional Agenda for the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, XVIII Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

The Committee approved the provisional agenda prepared by the Director for the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, XVIII Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization for the Americas, and authorized the Director to include in the provisional agenda such additional items as might be proposed in due time by the Governments and by those organizations entitled to propose agenda items.

Training of Auxiliary Personnel

The Committee took note of the report submitted by the Director, in compliance with Resolution XXIX of the XV Meeting of the Directing Council, which instructed the Director to prepare a study on the training of auxiliary personnel that might serve as a basis for discussion at a meeting of national authorities and international experts to be held for the purpose of formulating a policy on the training of auxiliary personnel. The Committee instructed the Director to transmit to the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference the report prepared by the Study Group as well as a recommendation on the need for Ministries of Health to organize training for health auxiliaries in accordance with the guidelines recommended by the Study Group, and also recommended to the Governments that they envisage the assistance of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau in such aspects of their programs for the training and use of auxiliary personnel as they deemed necessary.

Relations of the Pan American Health Organization with other Organs of the inter-American System

The Committee, after a detailed examination of the report of the Director on the Fourth Annual Meetings of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council at the Expert and Ministerial Level, acknowledged

the commendable efforts the Director had made at all meetings of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council since the approval of the Act of Bogota, which had brought about recognition of the importance of health in the social and economic well-being of the peoples of the Americas; noted with satisfaction and interest the document containing the report of the Director on the Fourth Annual Meetings of IA-ECOSOC at the Expert and Ministerial Level, held in Buenos Aires from 15 to 31 March 1966, the Second Extraordinary Inter-American Conference which was held in Rio de Janeiro, from 17 to 30 November 1965, and the Meeting of the Special Committee for the Preparation of Draft Amendments to the Charter of the Organization of American States, which met in Panama from 26 February to 1 April 1966. The Committee resolved to transmit the latter document to the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, XVIII Meeting of the WHO Regional Committee for the Americas, together with the resolution; it pointed out the importance which the Fourth Annual Meetings of IA-ECOSOC had given to health in the context of economic and social development of the Americas as shown in the resolutions approved at the Ministerial Level concerning health and development planning, population, coordination of Planning Offices and improvement of planning techniques, improvement of statistics of Latin American countries, social security in the framework of the Alliance for Progress, statutes of the Inter-American Emergency Fund, and study of the future financing of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center. Further, the Committee recommended to the Director that he continue to develop and strengthen the relations between IA-ECOSOC, the Inter-American Committee of the Alliance for Progress, (CIAP), and the Organization, with a view to strengthening the incorporation of health activities into programs of economic and social development; it also instructed the Director to continue his efforts in the manner he considered most efficient to ensure that items relating to the health of the peoples of the Western Hemisphere were included in the agenda of the meetings of IA-ECOSOC and that in the notices of the meeting sent to the Governments he draw attention to the advisability of the delegations of the countries including technicians from the health services who could bring their knowledge and experience to the examination of the above-mentioned items. Finally the Committee recommended to the Director that he continue to pay particular attention to the meetings in which amendments to the Charter of the OAS were dealt with so as to ensure that health received proper recognition among the principles which inspire the action of the OAS and, so that, in any amendments which might be made to the Charter of the OAS the rights which the Organization of American States had already granted to the Pan American Health Organization would be respected.

#### Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center

The Executive Committee recommended to the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference that it approve a resolution emphasizing the importance of maintaining the activities of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center at a sufficient level to allow it to provide Governments with scientific cooperation and technical advice in the planning and execution of national foot-and-mouth disease control programs; expressing the concern of the Conference about the immediate financial situation arising from the inadequate budget approved by the IA-ECOSOC which would not even allow activities to be maintained at the present level, and instructing the

Director to examine all possible means of obtaining greater financial support so as to avoid a reduction in present activities and obtain a gradual increase of that support according to the needs of the program; expressing further, its satisfaction with the fact that as far as long-term needs were concerned, and in accordance with the provisions of the pertinent resolutions of the IA-ECOSOC, the Director had begun a study in collaboration with the competent officials of the OAS to draw up a plan for the continuing and stable financing of the Center; and, finally, instructing the Director to report to the Executive Committee at its 56th Meeting on the progress made in this regard.

#### Estimated Requirements for Smallpox Eradication in the Americas

The Executive Committee took note of the report of the Director on estimated requirements for smallpox eradication in the Americas, and recommended that both PAHO and WHO satisfy the requests for assistance submitted by the countries and include in their budgets the necessary allotments for the provision of advisory services to Governments in the field of smallpox eradication. Furthermore, the Committee recommended to the Director that he continue his efforts to complete the smallpox eradication plan, that he expand the report submitted to the 54th Meeting of the Executive Committee to cover the measures taken in different countries of the Americas, and that he present the expanded report to the next Pan American Sanitary Conference. The Committee also expressed the hope that UNICEF would assist the countries in carrying out smallpox eradication programs; recommended to the Governments that they bring their influence to bear in international credit agencies with a view to their including in their credit policy the award of loans for national smallpox eradication programs; recommended that Member Governments give one another reciprocal assistance either directly or through PAHO/WHO, such as the granting of loans or bilateral subsidies, technical assistance field personnel, vaccine, supplies and equipment for smallpox eradication campaigns; recommended to the countries that they make as much use as possible of such human, technical and material resources as are available, both national and international, to ensure the execution of smallpox eradication programs; and, finally, recommended that Member Governments solve their administrative, financial, and staffing problems so that smallpox eradication programs could be carried out as expeditiously as possible.

#### Supply of Textbooks for Medical Students

The Executive Committee examined the program for the supply of textbooks for students of schools of medicine in Latin America, approved the important initiative of the Director and instructed him to continue his negotiations with the Inter-American Development Bank and other agencies with a view to obtaining financial support for the program. Further, the Committee authorized the Director to negotiate with the IDB or other agencies the most favorable terms possible for the financing of the program; and recommended to the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, XVIII Meeting of the WHO Regional Committee for the Americas that it authorize the Director to sign a contract for the loan with the IDB or other agencies, to undertake such acts and negotiations as might be necessary for the initiation and operation of the program, and to report on them from time to time to the Governing Bodies.

International Transportation of Human Remains

Pursuant to Resolution XXXVI, paragraph 3, of the XVI Meeting of the Directing Council, the Executive Committee considered the draft standards for the international transportation of human remains prepared by the Expert Committee and the revised text prepared by the Working Group appointed by the Committee to examine the observations submitted by Governments on the draft standards. The Committee resolved to transmit to the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference, XVIII Meeting of the WHO Regional Committee for the Americas, the revised text of the draft standards for the international transportation of human remains prepared by the Working Party appointed for that purpose, together with the observations of the Members of the Committee during the discussion of the matter. The Committee also recommended to the Pan American Sanitary Conference that, bearing in mind the draft standards in question and the observations of the Members of the Executive Committee in the discussion of that subject, it approves the draft standards on the international transportation of human remains and transmit the standards to the Governments of the Organization so that they might incorporate them into their legislation in such a way as they might think fit.

In concluding this report, in which I have tried to set forth objectively and concisely the most important decisions taken at both meetings, I should like to thank the Members of the Executive Committee for the confidence they placed in me by electing me Chairman and for the assistance I received in the course of the meetings from the Vice-Chairman and from all the members of the Committee. I should also like to thank the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the staff of the Bureau for their efficient work in organizing and conducting the meetings.