



XX PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

XXX REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1978

Provisional Agenda Item 33

CSP20/21 (Eng.)

31 July 1978

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SELECTION OF TWO GOVERNMENTS, EACH TO DESIGNATE A PERSON TO SERVE ON THE JOINT COORDINATING BOARD OF THE SPECIAL WHO PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES

The World Health Organization has established the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR). This Special Programme is one of global international technical cooperation initiated by WHO and cosponsored by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD: World Bank). It has the two interdependent objectives of developing improved tools for the control of tropical diseases and strengthening the research capability of affected countries themselves. The executing agency for the program is WHO.

The financial resources for the Special Programme are made available voluntarily by governments and organizations, through the Tropical Diseases Research Fund, which is an international fund administered by the World Bank, the WHO Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion, and other agency funds.

The TDR will address itself to research and training with respect to six tropical disease problems which are: malaria, schistosomiasis, filariasis, trypanosomiasis (both African and American), leprosy, and leishmaniasis.

For the total TDR program operations, \$19.8 million has been budgeted for 1978 and \$29.0 million for 1979.

The Joint Coordinating Board (JCB) is the major policy making organ of the TDR. It consists of 30 members from among the Cooperating Parties, as follows:

- "2.2.1 Twelve government representatives selected by the contributors to the Special Programme Resources.
- 2.2.2 Twelve government representatives selected by the WHO Regional Committees from among those countries directly affected by the diseases dealt with by the Special Programme, or from among those providing technical or scientific support to the Special Programme.
- 2.2.3 Three members, designated by the JCB itself, from among the remaining Cooperating Parties.
- 2.2.4 The three Agencies which comprise the Standing Committee.**

Members of the JCB serve for a period of three years and may be reappointed. Other Cooperating Parties may, at their request, be represented as observers upon approval by the JCB.

The functions of the Joint Coordinating Board are as follows:

"2.1 Functions

The JCB shall, for the purpose of coordinating the interests and responsibilities of the parties cooperating in the Special Programme, have the following functions:

- 2.1.1 Review and decide upon the planning and execution of the Special Programme. For this purpose it will keep itself informed of all aspects of the development of the Special Programme, and consider reports and recommendations submitted to it by the Standing Committee, the Executing Agency, and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC).
- 2.1.2 Approve the proposed plan of action and budget for the coming financial period, prepared by the Executing Agency and reviewed by the Standing Committee.
- 2.1.3 Review the proposals of the Standing Committee and approve arrangements for the financing of the Special Programme in that period.

*From the Report of the Meeting of Cooperating Parties of the Special Programme: Annex 4 (TDR/CP/78.3 Rev. 1)

- 2.1.4 Review proposed longer-term plans of action and their financial implications.
- 2.1.5 Review the annual financial statements submitted by the Executing Agency, as well as the audit report thereon, submitted by the External Auditor of the Executing Agency.
- 2.1.6 Review periodic reports which evaluate the progress of the Special Programme towards the achievement of its objectives.
- 2.1.7 Endorse the proposals of the Executing Agency and the Standing Committee for STAC membership.
- 2.1.8 Consider such other matters relating to the Special Programme as may be referred to it by any Cooperating Party.*

Serving as the Regional Committee for the Americas of WHO, the Conference has the privilege of selecting two Member States of WHO from the Region of the Americas, each to designate a person to serve on the Joint Coordinating Board. For the information of the Conference, Canada and the United States of America have already been selected to designate a person to serve on the JCB by the contributors to the Special Programme Resources. The Conference, therefore, should designate two other Member States, as provided for in par. 2.2.2, above, each to designate a representative.

Referring to par. 2.2.2, above, the two Governments selected must be from "among those countries directly affected by the diseases dealt with by the Special Programme, or from among those providing technical or scientific support to the Special Programme." For practical purposes, this provision serves to make eligible all of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Every country in these areas has recently reported cases of at least one of the six diseases dealt with by the Special Programme. The Conference is therefore free to designate any two WHO Member States, bearing in mind that Canada and the United States of America will be members of the JCB by reason of their selection by the contributors to the Special Programme Resources.

*From the Report of the Meeting of Cooperating Parties of the Special Programme: Annex 4 (TDR/CP/78.3 Rev. 1)