



# XV Pan American Sanitary Conference

San Juan, Puerto Rico  
September-October, 1958

# X Meeting Regional Committee



## TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS

CSP15/26, Rev.1, Cor. (Eng.)  
26 September 1958  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

### RULES FOR TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS AT MEETINGS OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE AND OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL

#### PART I

##### Purpose of the Technical Discussions

Art. 1. The Pan American Sanitary Conference (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference") and the Directing Council of the Pan American Sanitary Organization (hereinafter referred to as "the Council") shall meet in special session to hold Technical Discussions to deal with matters of regional interest related to the activities of the Pan American Sanitary Organization and of the national public health administrations, the study of which may produce immediate and practical results.

#### PART II

##### Nature of the Technical Discussions -- Participation

Art. 2. The Technical Discussions shall form part of the business of the Conference and of the Council.

Art. 3. Participation in the Technical Discussions shall be open to delegates, alternates, or advisers of the delegations accredited to the Conference or the Council meeting at which the Discussions are held.

Art. 4. Representatives of international organizations, inter-governmental or nongovernmental, that maintain official relations with the World Health Organization or with the Pan American Sanitary Organization, may participate in the Technical Discussions.

Art. 5. In the Technical Discussions, opinions are expressed in a personal capacity.

Art. 6. The documents pertaining to the Technical Discussions shall be issued by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau separately from the documents of the Conference or the Council.

## PART III

Selection of Topics for Technical Discussions

Art. 7. The Conference or the Council, as the case may be, shall each year select the topic or topics for the Technical Discussions to be held during the ensuing meeting of either of these two governing bodies. The Member Governments and the Director of the Bureau may propose topics prior to those meetings or in the course of them. The Conference or the Council may delegate the selection of topics to the Executive Committee.

Art. 8. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall, at the earliest possible date, inform the Member Governments, territories, and organizations entitled to representation, of the topic or topics selected for the Technical Discussions.

## PART IV

Designation and Duties of the Experts

Art. 9. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall designate the necessary experts to present an introductory statement on each topic selected for the Technical Discussions.

Art. 10. The Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall place at the disposal of the designated experts such background material as may be considered useful for the preparation of their respective introductory statements.

Art. 11. A copy of the introductory statement prepared by each expert shall be transmitted by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, as far in advance as possible, to the Member Governments, territories, and organizations entitled to a representation.

Art. 12. The Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall not be held responsible for the opinions and ideas expressed in the introductory statements.

## PART V

Organization of the Technical Discussions

Art. 13. The Conference or the Council on examining the program of sessions, shall schedule the date on which the Technical Discussions are to be held. Preferably, the date should fall approximately midway in the course of the Conference or the Council meeting.

Art. 14. The Technical Discussions will be held in special session, and while they are being held no other activity of the Conference or the Council shall take place.

Art. 15. A moderator and a rapporteur shall be elected for each topic. The moderator shall preside and shall organize the work of the Technical Discussions in such a manner as to facilitate the active discussion of the topics.

Art. 16. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall appoint a technical secretary to assist the rapporteur and the moderator of each topic.

## PART VI

### Deliberation and Reports

Art. 17. The Technical Discussions shall open with a statement by the designated expert or experts, who will give a brief summary of the introductory paper prepared for the Discussions.

Art. 18. The Conference or the Council may establish working parties to examine the Technical Discussion topics. Each working party shall elect a moderator and a rapporteur, who will be assisted by the technical secretary appointed by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Art. 19. No minutes of the sessions shall be kept. The rapporteur shall prepare a report summarizing the opinions expressed in the course of the Technical Discussions and stating the conclusions reached, if any.

Art. 20. The moderator shall transmit the report of the Technical Discussions to the Conference or the Council, for presentation in plenary session.

Art. 21. The Conference or the Council may adopt decisions on the topic of the Technical Discussions, following the same procedures as those applied for the other decisions of the meeting.

Art. 22. The Director of the Bureau shall give the widest possible distribution to the reports and other documents, through the Boletín and other special publications of PASB.