

directing council



PAN AMERICAN
SANITARY
ORGANIZATION

IX Meeting

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

VIII Meeting



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Topic 30: ACCOMMODATION FOR ZONE OFFICE

The Director wishes to report that he has had under consideration for some time the advisability of transferring the Field Office for the Caribbean from Kingston, Jamaica, to Caracas, Venezuela, and at the same time elevating it to the full status and strength of a Zone Office.

The proposed new zone office in Caracas is planned to serve Venezuela and the countries currently served by the Field Office for the Caribbean. The countries to be served are: Venezuela; France (Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana); Netherlands (Netherlands Antilles and Surinam); and United Kingdom (Bermuda Islands, Bahama Islands, Jamaica and dependencies, Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, and British Guiana).

The establishment of a new zone office in Caracas will permit a closer contact between the Bureau and the Venezuelan authorities than is possible from the Zone IV Office in Lima, Perú. Venezuela has a comprehensive and active public health program which makes it important to the Bureau and to Venezuela to have a Zone headquarters located there. Caracas also is an exceptionally good travel center which provides excellent transportation to the entire area now served by the Field Office for the Caribbean in Kingston. The West Indies Federation is expected to come into being soon with the capitol of the new Federation to be Port Of Spain, Trinidad, only 1 1/2 hours' flying time from Caracas. All of these factors have led the Director to conclude that there would be real advantages to making the transfer and establishing a zone office in Caracas.

The Government of Venezuela, in certain preliminary discussions, has offered very generously to pay general costs attendant upon the move from Kingston to Caracas. It has offered to provide satisfactory office space, essential utilities and certain fixed equipment in addition to paying an annual additional special contribution to the Bureau to cover the higher staff costs in Caracas resulting from cost of living adjustments and high local staff wage rates.

In view of this generous offer and the advantages which will accrue from the transfer of the Field Office for the Caribbean and establishment of the new Zone Office, the Directing Council may wish to adopt a resolution along the following lines:

Proposed Resolution

The Directing Council,

Having considered the plan to move the Field Office for the Caribbean from Kingston, Jamaica, to Caracas, Venezuela, and establish a new Zone Office there;

Taking into account the advantages which would be gained by such a move;

RESOLVES:

To approve the move of the Field Office for the Caribbean from Kingston, Jamaica, to Caracas, Venezuela, and the establishment in that city of a new Zone Office of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau; provided, the Director is able to complete a satisfactory agreement covering the terms and conditions under which the office will be established and operated.