

directing council



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION
XIII Meeting

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION
XIII Meeting



Washington, D. C.
October 1961

CD13/44 (Eng.)
9 October 1961
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Topic 7: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Presented by Dr. James Watt (United States of America),
Chairman of the 44th Meeting of the Executive Committee.

I have the honor to submit to the Directing Council, pursuant to Article 8-C of the Constitution, this report on the work of the Executive Committee during the period August 1960 to October 1961, in which it held its 42nd, 43rd, and 44th meetings.

The 42nd Meeting was held in Havana, Cuba, on 26 August 1960, after the close of the XII Meeting of the Directing Council. It was attended by the following representatives: Dr. Bichat Rodrigues (Brazil), Dr. Gustavo Fricke Schenke (Chile), Dr. Luis Patiño Camargo (Colombia), Dr. Francisco Monterrosa Gavidia (El Salvador), Dr. Arturo Zelaya (Honduras), and Dr. Elliott Ross Jenney and Mr. Charles W. Thomas (United States of America). The following attended as observers: Dr. Raymond G. Hyronimus and Dr. Robert A. Rose-Rosette (France), Mr. Frans Joseph van Agt (Kingdom of the Netherlands), Dr. Alberto Bissot, Jr. (Panama), and Dr. Horace P. S. Gillette and Dr. Frank R. S. Kellett (United Kingdom).

At the 42nd Meeting Dr. Elliott Ross Jenney, Representative of the United States of America, was elected Chairman, and Dr. Luis Patiño Camargo, Representative of Colombia, Vice-Chairman.

The 43rd Meeting was held in Washington, D. C., from 15 to 22 May 1961, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Elliott Ross Jenney and with Dr. Alvaro de Angulo (Colombia) as Vice-Chairman. It was attended by the following representatives: Dr. Andrés Martínez Marchetti (Argentina), Dr. Bichat Rodrigues (Brazil), Dr. Alfredo Leonardo Bravo (Chile), Dr. Alberto Aguilar Rivas (El Salvador), Dr. Juan Lara Zepeda (Honduras), and Dr. Arthur S. Osborne, Dr. Frederick J. Vintinner, Mr. James R. E. Wachob, and Mr. Laurence R. Wyatt (United States of America). The following also attended as observers: Mr. Jacques Dupont (France), Mr. Arturo Rivera G. and Mr. Augusto López Mejía (Guatemala), Mr. Lodewijk A. M. Litchveld, Mr. Frans Joseph van Agt (Kingdom of the Netherlands), Dr. Daniel Orellana

(Venezuela), and Mr. Howard Salzman, Jr., Mrs. Alzora H. Eldrige, and Mrs. Bernice Randall (Organization of American States).

The 44th Meeting was held in Washington, D. C., on 4 October 1961, and I had the honor to preside over it. The following Representatives were also present: Dr. Victorio Vicente Olguín (Argentina), Dr. Gastão Cesar Andrade (Brazil), Dr. Gustavo Fricke Schenke (Chile), Dr. Arturo Zelaya Pinel (Honduras), Mr. Howard B. Calderwood and Mr. Laurence R. Wyatt (United States of America). Dr. Miguel E. Bustamante (Mexico) and Dr. Lisandro Latuff (Venezuela) attended as observers.

Pursuant to Article 6 of the 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.

Posthumous Tribute to Mr. Guillermo A. Suro

The Executive Committee expressed its deep sorrow at the death of Mr. Guillermo A. Suro, Chief of the Conference and Publications Branch of the Bureau, and, after paying tribute to his memory, suspended the first session of the 43rd Meeting to attend the funeral services.

Introduction of the New Senior Officers of the Bureau

At the 43rd Meeting of the Executive Committee, it was announced that prior to the 42nd Meeting the Governments forming the Committee had cabled their approval of the recommendation of the Director to appoint Dr. John C. Cutler, of the United States of America, as Assistant Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, in replacement of Dr. Carlos Luis González, of Venezuela, and Dr. Víctor A. Sutter, of El Salvador, as Secretary General of the Bureau, to succeed Dr. Myron E. Wegman, of the United States of America. The two new senior officers have already rendered continuous and outstanding services both in their own countries and in international organizations, particularly in the World Health Organization.

In the course of the meetings covered by this report the Committee considered matters of the utmost importance to the Organization, in addition to examining the proposed program and budget, its principal task. Of these matters, the following were the most important: the construction of the new Headquarters building; the Special Fund for Health Promotion; decentralization of the activities of the PASB; economic aspects of health activities; register of areas where malaria is eradicated; planning for PAHO research programs. The Committee's discussions on these topics are summarized below:

Buildings and Installations for Headquarters

The Committee considered this matter at the 42nd and 43rd Meeting.

At its 42nd Meeting the Committee decided to appoint Argentina and Chile to the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations for their term of office as Members of the Executive Committee, and expressed its thanks to the Representatives of Mexico and of Venezuela for the valuable services they had rendered as members of that Subcommittee. They also agreed to authorize the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations to act for the Pan American Health Organization in all matters relating to the construction of the Headquarters building.

At its 43rd Meeting, the Committee examined the reports of that Subcommittee on the financing of the construction costs of the Headquarters building, the international competition to select an architectural design, and the renting of additional temporary space for Headquarters. It expressed its thanks to the Permanent Subcommittee on Buildings and Installations for the work it had done, approved the steps taken by the Director and Subcommittee with respect to the construction of the new Headquarters building, and decided to transmit the reports of the Subcommittee and of the Director to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council for its consideration.

Proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1962

At its 43rd Meeting, the Committee made a detailed examination, chapter by chapter, of the proposed budget of the Organization for 1961 submitted by the Director. It dealt with the various activities of the Organization: integrated public health services, fellowships, advanced nursing education, communicable diseases, organization of hospital services, nutrition, work of INCAP, diarrheal diseases in children, consultant services, training of sanitary engineers and auxiliary personnel, etc. As a result of that examination, a report containing the detailed comments of the Committee was drawn up for submission to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council (Document CD13/30). The Committee accepted the Proposed Program and Budget which they considered constituted a well-conceived and much-needed program. The Committee agreed that the budget level proposed for 1962 was necessary for the proper development of the activities of the Organization, and recommended its adoption by the Directing Council. It recognized that an increase of about 4 per cent was needed in order to meet the increased costs of the present level of activities and that a further increase of 5 per cent for the purpose of expanding the work of the Organization was the minimum necessary to support the proposed program, which had been developed on the basis of the request of the Governments.

Accordingly, the Committee decided to submit to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council the proposed Program and Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for 1962 prepared by the Director, together with the report containing the observations and recommendations of the Executive Committee, and recommended that the Directing Council establish the budget level of the Organization for 1962 at \$5,240,000.

Special Fund for Health Promotion

At its 43rd Meeting, the Committee considered the report of the Director which contained the proposal for the establishment of a Special Fund for Health Promotion. Such a Fund would permit the very generous grant of \$3,750,000 made by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation for the expansion of the activities of the Pan American Health Organization to be utilized on conditions which would enable the Organization to proceed with the construction of a new Headquarters building.

The Committee expressed its deep appreciation to the Kellogg Foundation and decided to transmit the report of the Director on the creation of the above-mentioned Fund to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council and to recommend that it authorize the Director to create that Fund to which not less than \$187,500 should be assigned every year from the Regular Budget of the Organization until an amount of \$3,750,000 has been committed for expanded program activities.

Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 1960

These reports were examined at the 43rd Meeting of the Committee, which took note of them and decided to transmit them to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council, urged Member Governments whose quota contributions were in arrears to pay them as soon as possible, and requested the Director to bring to the attention of the Member Governments the need for prompt payment of their quotas and to adopt such other measures as might be deemed advisable for that purpose and to report to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council the results of his efforts in that connection.

Decentralization of the Activities of the PASB

At its 43rd Meeting, the Executive Committee examined the report of the Director on the decentralization of the activities of the Bureau. It took note of the report and instructed the Director to continue to apply the decentralization measures and administrative practices he might deem appropriate, in accordance with the plan and criteria presented in his report.

Amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau

At its 43rd Meeting, the Executive Committee examined the amendments to the Staff Rules of the Bureau proposed by the Director, amendments which were identical with those introduced by the Director-General of the

WHO, as well as other amendments that involved a change in policy regarding the granting of dependents' allowances to general service staff.

With regard to the first series of amendments, the Committee agreed to confirm the proposed amendments with the exception of that relating to Staff Rule 260, which would result in a substantial loss of remuneration to staff members assigned to schedule "S" duty stations for five consecutive years or more. It decided to request the World Health Organization to initiate within the United Nations a re-examination of the provisions of that Rule, with a view to eliminating conditions of employment that would discriminate against staff members in the above-mentioned stations. It also decided to ask the Director to take all possible steps to solve the problem of the assignment allowance and to report on the matter to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

At the 44th Meeting the Director submitted a report on the transitional arrangements being made by the World Health Organization so as to alleviate any hardship to staff members arising out of the adoption of the amendment to Staff Rule 260. The Executive Committee decided to confirm the amendment of Staff Rule 260 of the Pan American Health Organization as follows:

260 ASSIGNMENT ALLOWANCE

- 260.1 A staff member, other than those appointed under Rules 1120 and 1130, who is assigned to an official station other than in the country of his place of residence, under circumstances which the Bureau classifies as a Schedule "S" assignment in accordance with Rule 410.2, shall receive an allowance designed to compensate for the dislocation factors resulting from the nature of the assignment.
- 260.2 The amount of the allowance shall vary by grade level and differentiate between those with and without dependants as defined in Rule 210.3(a) and (b).
- 260.3 The assignment allowance shall normally cease when a staff member has been in receipt of it for five consecutive years at any one duty station.

As to the second series of the proposed amendments, the Committee agreed to approve in principle a program of dependent' allowances for general service staff and requested the Director to include in the proposed budget for 1963 the amount necessary for that purpose.

Report on the Collection of Quotas - Payment in Local Currencies

At the 43rd Meeting of the Committee the Director submitted a report, pursuant to Resolution XIX of the XII Meeting of the Directing

Council, on the possibility of having the Member Governments pay part of the assessed quotas in their respective national currencies.

Bearing in mind the difficulties that would arise from any change in the present system of collecting quotas, in particular that of maintaining equity and fairness for all Member Governments, and the experience of the World Health Organization in the matter, the Committee decided to maintain the present arrangements for the payment of annual quota contributions.

Economic Aspects of Health Activities

At its 43rd Meeting, the Executive Committee made a thorough examination of the document submitted by the Director pursuant to Resolution XXVIII of the XII Meeting of the Directing Council, which had requested him to consult with the appropriate officers of the Organization of American States and of other organizations interested in, or concerned with, public health in order to study how the common interests of those organizations in the economic field might be further developed.

The Committee took note of the report submitted by the Director and decided to transmit it to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council, to congratulate the Director on the skillful and effective manner in which he had presented to the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Governments the reasons for incorporating the concept of health into planning for the economic and social development of the peoples of the Americas, and to recommend the Directing Council to approve the following objectives: (a) to fulfill the role of PAHO in the implementation of the Act of Bogotá, particularly with reference to the strengthening of national health services and the provision of potable water; (b) to contribute even more effectively, by means of health activities, to the balanced economic and social development of the countries of the Americas; (c) to emphasize the importance of health programs in the preparation of plans for economic and social development and to bring to the attention of the Member Countries the need for health authorities to take part in the preparation of such plans; (d) to give increasing emphasis to the improvement of the administration of health programs by strengthening statistical services and improving administrative practices and personnel management, and by other means designed to achieve the same end; and (e) to assist in the establishment of more effective criteria for the assessment of the economic value of health programs.

It also recommended that the Bureau should give assistance, when requested to do so by the national health authorities, in planning in the field of health in such a way as to emphasize the importance of the concept of health in the economic and social development of the countries.

Register of Areas Where Malaria is Eradicated

At its 43rd Meeting, the Executive Committee made a detailed examination of the report submitted by the Director on the register of areas where malaria is eradicated, in which the conclusion was reached that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau was in a position to assume the responsibility assigned to it by Resolution XXXII of the XI Meeting of the Directing Council, and decided to approve the above-mentioned report and to request the Director to present it to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council.

Arrangements for the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council

At the 43rd Meeting the Executive Committee approved with minor modifications the preliminary draft agenda prepared by the Director for the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council, XIII Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization, and authorized the Director to include in it such further items as might be proposed by the Member Governments and by those Organizations entitled to propose agenda items.

At the same meeting the Committee also decided to authorize the Director to convene the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council in Washington, D. C., from 3 to 17 October 1961.

Inter-American Congresses of Public Health -- Technical Discussions

At its 43rd Meeting the Executive Committee decided to instruct the Director that Technical Discussions be held at the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference in the same way as at prior conferences and decided that no Inter-American Congress of Public Health would be organized on that occasion.

Financial Rules of the PAHO

At the 43rd Meeting the Director submitted draft financial rules closely modeled after those of the World Health Organization.

The Committee decided to confirm the rules established by the Director and to transmit them to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council for its considerations.

Emergency Revolving Fund

At the 43rd Meeting the Committee took note of the report on the Emergency Revolving Fund presented by the Director. The report contained a statement of the transactions of the Fund, the balance of which stood at \$22,641 on 31 March 1961.

Estimate Requirements for the PAHO Special Malaria Fund

At the 43rd Meeting the Executive Committee considered the report of the Director on the requirements for the malaria eradication programs that the Organization was carrying out, or had planned, and decided to take note of the funds deemed necessary to cover future requirements. It also requested that the material be presented at the next meeting of the Directing Council, together with such revisions as might be required to bring it up to date at that time, and that the Director prepare annual revisions of the estimates for study by the Executive Committee and the Directing Council. It further requested Member Governments to continue their support of the PAHO Special Malaria Fund so that eradication activities might proceed as scheduled.

Planning for PAHO Research Program

At its 43rd Meeting the Executive Committee, after considering the report of the Director on the PAHO research program and the steps being taken to expand research in the Region, including the agreement between PAHO and the USPHS, approved the plan and policies outlined by the Director and decided to transmit the report to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council. It also requested the Director to take the necessary action for all possible further expansion of the research activities of the Organization for the mutual benefit of the countries of the Region.

Training of Sanitary Engineers and Auxiliary Personnel

At its 43rd Meeting the Executive Committee discussed problems of sanitation, particularly water supply and sewage disposal, and came to the conclusion that, in order to ensure that an adequate number of sanitary engineers and auxiliary personnel would be available, it would be necessary to interest more students in entering that field and to provide facilities in which such personnel could be trained. Accordingly, it decided to request the Director to explore ways by which assistance could be given to the Member Governments for the establishment, strengthening, and expansion of the training of sanitary engineers and auxiliary personnel in Latin America, and to continue to investigate, particularly with the UN Special Fund, means for providing a broad program of assistance to Governments in the training of sanitary engineers and auxiliary personnel.

Work of the Subcommittee on Basic Documents of the Pan American Health Organization

At its 42nd Meeting, the Executive Committee decided to appoint El Salvador to the Subcommittee on Basic Documents of the Pan American Health Organization and expressed its thanks to the Representative of Mexico for the valuable services he had rendered when a member of the Subcommittee.

At the 43rd Meeting, the Committee took note of the report submitted by the Subcommittee on Basic Documents and thanked it for the important work it had accomplished in fulfillment of the assignment entrusted to it. It also requested it to complete as soon as possible its study of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council and of the Executive Committee.

The Committee also decided at its 43rd Meeting to authorize the Director to submit to the Member Governments the revisions proposed by the Subcommittee on Basic Documents in its report, as well as such other revisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Directing Council and of the Executive Committee as it might propose, with the request that any comments the Governments might wish to make should be sent to the Director not later than 1 September 1961 so that they might be submitted to the 44th Meeting of the Executive Committee. It also decided to submit the recommendations of the Executive Committee, together with such comments as might be made by the Governments, to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council.

At its 44th Meeting, the Executive Committee, after examining the revised texts of the Basic Documents proposed by the Subcommittee and after considering the comments made by the Member Governments, decided to take note of the work of the Subcommittee, to thank it for the important work accomplished, and to submit the proposed texts as contained in Document CD13/16, together with the comments of the Governments as contained in Document CE44/3 to the XIII Meeting of the Directing Council for its consideration and appropriate action. It also recommended that the revisions in the Basic Documents proposed by the Subcommittee, as further modified by the Subcommittee, in the light of the comments of Governments, be adopted.

In conclusion I should like to express my sincere thanks and those of Dr. Ross Jenney to the members of the Executive Committee who made our task so easy. I should also like to state that the full cooperation and support we received at all times from the Director and the staff of the Bureau was of great help to us in expediting the work of the Executive Committee.