

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Central Officials' Training Institute
Tuesday, 21 September 1965 at 9.00 a.m.

CHAIRMAN: Dr H.E. Downes

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Fifth MeetingTuesday, 21 September 1965 at 9.00 a.m.PRESENTI. Representatives of Member States

AUSTRALIA	Dr H.E. Downes Dr Ako Toua
CAMBODIA	Dr In Sokan Dr Keo Phann
CHINA	Dr C.K. Chang Dr T.C. Hsu
FRANCE	Médecin Général M. Orsini
JAPAN	Dr N. Tatebayashi Mr S. Mitani
LAOS	Dr Koukeo Saycocie
MALAYSIA	Dr L.W. Jayesuria Dr R. Dickie
NEW ZEALAND	Dr C.N. Derek Taylor
PHILIPPINES	Dr C.S. Gatmaitan Dr T.A. Gomez Dr A.N. Acosta
PORTUGAL	Dr N.C. de Andrade Dr M.F. Matias
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	Dr Taek Il Kim Dr Chang Dong Min Dr Yu Sun Yun
REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM	Dr Le Cui Truong Dr Duong Cam Chuong
UNITED KINGDOM	Dr C.H. Gurd
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Dr R.K.C. Lee Dr J. Austin Kerr Dr D.W. Ruthig Dr H.A. Tucker Lt. Colonel H.W. Fleming Dr Masashi Makabe

- WESTERN SAMOA Dr J.C. Thieme
- II. Observers of Non-Member States
- SINGAPORE Dr Thong Kah Leong
- III. Representatives of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies
- UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND Mr A.E. McBain
- IV. Representatives of other inter-governmental organizations
- INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF MILITARY MEDICINE AND PHARMACY Colonel Eui Shik Kim
- SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION Dr G. Loison
- V. Representatives of non-governmental organizations
- INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES Miss S.Y. Hong
- INTERNATIONAL DENTAL FEDERATION Dr S.H. Yoon
Dr U.S. Oh
- INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL FEDERATION Dr V.R. de Ocampo
Dr R.L. Alfonso
Dr M. Chua Chiaco
- INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR HEALTH EDUCATION Dr G. Loison
- LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES Dr Y.C. Kim
Mrs Y.C. Koo
- MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION Dr C.H. Lee
- WORLD VETERANS FEDERATION Vice-Admiral S.H. Lee
- VI. WHO Secretariat
- SECRETARY Dr I.C. Fang
Regional Director

1 STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH WHO (continued from the third meeting, section 4 and fourth meeting, section 1)

At the invitation of the Chairman, the following Representatives presented statements.

1.1 Representative of the South Pacific Commission

Dr LOISON stated that, as every year the South Pacific Commission was represented at the meetings of the Regional Committee, he did not think it was necessary once again to describe the objectives of this inter-governmental organization which, in the islands of the Pacific Ocean, had the responsibility, on request, to improve the health conditions of the territories. The countries which had created this advisory service - Australia, France, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, United States of America and Western Samoa - were all represented, and they knew perfectly the possibilities and limitations of the Commission. He had personally had the pleasure of attending a number of the activities organized by WHO. The Commission had been invited to these conferences and sometimes meetings had been organized jointly. This year, for instance, a joint training course on water supplies would be held in Tonga. At the beginning of 1965 WHO had sent three of its specialists to help the Commission which had organized in New Hebrides a training course on the control of insects which were disease vectors. An efficient collaboration existed in the fields of maternal and child health, health education, statistics, tuberculosis control, sanitary engineering and the training of personnel. The Commission had a limited budget so that the volume of its activities could not be compared with

those of WHO. However, the results were not negligible. The collaboration of WHO with the South Pacific Commission would probably increase, since from this year onwards WHO had an office in Fiji. He hoped that the nineteen countries and territories of the South Pacific would greatly benefit from this collaboration.

In closing, Dr Loison expressed regret over the departure of Dr Fang. Because of him the relationships between the two organizations had been happy and efficient. In the name of Mr Forsyth, the Secretary-General of the Commission, he wished Dr Fang a good and long retirement.

1.2 Representative of the International Dental Federation

Dr YOON stated that the International Dental Federation had fifty-seven member associations, seven corresponding associations, and three affiliate associations. Sessions were held annually and every five years there was a World Dental Congress. The Fourteenth World Dental Congress would take place in Paris in 1967. The Fifth Asian Pacific Dental Congress, which was affiliated to the Association, would be held in Seoul in 1967. He invited all interested representatives to attend the world meetings.

Dr Yoon referred to the assistance being provided by WHO in promoting dental health, especially in the training of dental personnel in standardized methods of examination, recording and statistical epidemiological techniques. As pointed out in the report of the WHO consultant, who had visited a number of countries in the Region, the lack of autonomy of dentistry within the public health framework had presented obstacles to the implementation of dental health programmes.

Limited funds had prevented some countries from carrying out dental surveys for which special staff had received training. It was hoped that WHO could find an effective way of solving this problem. As shown in the World Directory of Dental Schools published by WHO in 1961, it was apparent that the countries with a population per dentist rate exceeding 10 000 did not have adequate facilities to promote general dental health. New dental schools were needed, and even more important, a new type of dental education was urgently required for the developing countries in the Region. Emphasis must be placed on preventive rather than curative measures and staff must therefore be educated so that they could review the dental problems in terms of community public health. It was hoped that WHO would review the educational systems presently in existence and recommend a practical system of dental education to the authorities concerned. The Association had supported WHO in its efforts to emphasize that water fluoridation had a permanent role in the mass prevention of dental cases. It was, however, regretted that some countries had not yet adopted this effective and economic measure to combat dental decay. He suggested that the appointment of dental consultants and advisors to study the situation and to make recommendations regarding future programmes would accelerate work in this field.

1.3 Representative of the International Union for Health Education

Dr LOISON stated that the International Union for Health Education wished to be represented at this meeting so that it might be fully informed about the conclusions of the Technical Discussions. Many of

the representatives knew about this body and some of them had attended the last two conferences organized by the Union in Philadelphia in 1962 and in Madrid last July. The International Union had been founded about fifteen years ago in order to ensure liaison between all persons interested in the field of health education. It organized international conferences every three years, published an international journal on health education, and carried on research through a permanent technical committee. It had official relations with WHO and some of its activities were organized jointly with WHO. Dr Loison hoped that all the countries represented at the meeting would become members of the Union.

1.4 Representative of the Medical Women's International Association

Dr KIM stated that the Medical Women's International Association had co-operated with the World Health Organization on several occasions in different parts of the world. A month ago, Dr del Mundo, the President of the Association, had visited Korea to see and encourage the members. She had been travelling around twenty-two of the thirty-three member countries of the Association. In Korea there were more than fifteen hundred women doctors and almost all of them were working actively in the private clinics or hospitals. One of the eight medical colleges in Korea was for women only. Although she did not know the exact number of women doctors in the whole of the Western Pacific Region, she hoped that they would co-operate more closely and actively with the World Health Organization.

1.5 Representative of the International Council of Nurses

Miss HONG extended the greetings of the Thirteenth Congress of the International Council of Nurses which had met in Frankfurt, Germany

on 12-24 June 1965. The theme of the meeting had been "Communication or Conflict: Road to Better Understanding between Nurse, Patient, Health Team and Public". Nursing had been an integral part of WHO activities and there had been close ties in this field through scholarships, seminars and consultations. This relationship would continue to grow as international health activities became more complex.

1.6 Representative of the International Hospital Federation

Dr de OCAMPO brought greetings from the International Hospital Federation which was represented at this meeting by the Philippine Hospital Association. It had been a great opportunity to attend the sixteenth session of the Regional Committee and to work with the representatives in the discussion of plans for the improvement of the health of the people in the Western Pacific Region.

2 CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

The Committee considered the following draft resolutions presented by Dr ORSINI (France) and Dr CHANG (China), Rapporteurs.

2.1 Annual Report of the Regional Director

2.2 Health in relation to demographic questions

2.3 Smallpox eradication programme

2.4 Poliomyelitis

2.5 Third general programme of work for the Western Pacific Region covering the period 1967-1971

Decision: The draft resolutions were unanimously adopted (see resolutions WP/RCL6.R2, WP/RCL6.R3, WP/RCL6.R4, WP/RCL6.R5 and WP/RCL6.R6).

2.6 Cholera

Dr GATMAITAN (Philippines) referred to paragraph 2(3) which read in part: "... should obtain the assistance of personnel from some of the interested countries ...". He wondered why it had been worded "from some of the interested countries" and not "from interested countries".

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR explained that, while there were many interested countries, not all were prepared to designate people for this task.

Decision: There being no further comments, the draft resolution was adopted (see resolution WP/RCL6.R7).

3 SELECTION OF TOPIC FOR THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS DURING THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE: Item 18 of the Agenda (Document WP/RCL6/10)

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR stated that document WP/RCL6/10 contained suggestions of the Secretariat as to the topics which might be considered for the Technical Discussions in 1966. It was possible that Representatives might have some alternative topics to suggest.

Dr LEE (United States of America) said that the technical discussions on health education had been very interesting.

One of the areas that had been stressed had been the adequate utilization of health education fellows who had been trained abroad. The representatives who had discussed the subject had been concerned about the loss of some of the fellows who had received training in health or medical activities. He wished, therefore, to support item 2 of the proposals made by the Secretariat, "Evaluation of fellowship programmes for the training of medical and health personnel". The technical discussions had also referred to the curriculum and some representatives had felt that the content of curricula was neither complete, comprehensive nor adequate. He felt that there was a need for dialogue and interchange between the people who were training the health workers and those who were using them. The Secretariat could devise a technical discussion for the next meeting that would be fruitful and interesting. He had attended such a session not long ago. The meeting had been held in the United States of America and representatives of schools of public health had met with government health officers. There had been interesting and free discussions between the users and trainers, and the consensus of the meeting had been that this kind of communication was necessary from time to time, as it provided the opportunity for such an interchange.

The CHAIRMAN stated that he was aware that WHO fellows were sent questionnaires shortly after completion of their fellowship and then about two years later. He wondered whether the Organization ever sent letters to the fellows five or ten years after their fellowships to find out what they were doing.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR stated that fellows were followed up for two years only. However, the suggestion that this might be extended beyond two years was very good and would be considered.

Dr GURD (United Kingdom) supported topic No. 1, "Applied nutrition in the public health programme". The development of medical services in a country generally started with the embellishment of clinical services. This was understandable because the orientation of primary medical education was largely towards clinical medicine. Having gone through that phase, the country then tended to blossom out into public health programmes. At this stage the general trend was to produce rules and regulations on public health generally, and to go off into environmental sanitation, the question of water supplies and sanitation, and so on, into the prevention of communicable diseases and into maternal and child health. There was a third group of subjects which was most important, and these were very often neglected. One had been considered during the present session, i.e., health education. The subject which he thought was equally neglected was the matter of applied nutrition which was of extreme importance to a large number of countries in the area. Another one which was also important for a health department to look into was the question of developing a housing programme. As "Applied nutrition in the public health programme", fell into the third group, he wished to support it on behalf of the United Kingdom.

Dr JAYESURIA (Malaysia) stated that his delegation wished to propose that topic No. 3, "The role of the health department in environmental health activities", should be considered. This topic was of

great importance and had been mentioned to a certain extent at the technical discussions because in a developing country, particularly in the rural areas, there were health problems due to incomplete control of the environment. Very often in the developing countries, the health department did not have executive powers in the local areas and was there only in an advisory capacity. Much could be done to improve environmental health in these areas, but the recommendations of the health officials were not implemented, either because of reluctance on the part of the local authority to embark on programmes that involved a great deal of money, or the fear of the elected representatives of the local authority to introduce by-laws, or to enforce existing by-laws, in case this action might cause them to lose their popularity and possibly their seats at the next election. The discussion therefore of this topic might assist many of the countries in the Region which were faced with such problems. It might also form the basis on which the country could take appropriate action to make the role of the health department in the improvement of environmental health conditions, particularly in the rural areas, more effective.

Dr ORSINI (France) said that the French delegation was in favour of Dr Jayesuria's proposal. At this session's technical discussions, the meeting had discussed health education. It was his opinion that the discussion of the improvement of environmental health would be an interesting addition to this year's discussion. As regards New Caledonia, which he represented, it was obvious that the problem of environmental health was important and a discussion of this subject

would be useful, in that the deliberations at the Regional Committee would support the action of the health services in New Caledonia. He agreed with Dr Jayesuria that work in the field of environmental health did not depend entirely on the public health services. It was rather difficult for a director of health services to get the necessary support and understanding to obtain the funds required for an environmental health programme. The selection of this topic would support this kind of request. This was a very important problem, at least in the territories which were under his direction.

Dr GATMAITAN (Philippines) said that the Philippine delegation wished to associate itself with the views of the delegations from Malaysia and France.

Dr IN SOKAN (Cambodia) also supported the proposal of the Malaysian and French delegations.

Dr HSU (China) endorsed the proposal of the Representative of the United States of America. There was great need at the moment for Member countries to discuss the policy on fellowships because the Regional Office was spending a large sum of money for this kind of assistance. In his country, difficulty was being experienced in accepting the benefits of this kind of assistance because year by year it was hard to get suitable candidates for study abroad due to lack of language proficiency. In the past most of the health workers could speak Japanese and it was possible to send them to Japan for training. However, few of them could now speak Japanese and some of

the receiving countries had had difficulty with fellows coming from his country. He felt that the policy of WHO assistance with regard to fellowships should be studied. Many countries had training facilities for health workers but there was a financial difficulty involved which prevented most countries from offering these facilities extensively to their health workers. WHO might consider giving assistance to enable health officers to be trained in their own countries. Member countries had been receiving fellowship assistance for the past fifteen years. This was now a good occasion for them to discuss and evaluate the benefits received from this type of assistance.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the matter be put to the vote.

Decision: Topic No. 3, "The Role of the Health Department in Environmental Health Activities", was selected by a majority vote (see resolution WP/RC16.R8).

4 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT PRESENTED BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMME AND BUDGET: Item 8.2 of the Agenda (Document WP/RC16/13)

The CHAIRMAN presented the draft report and invited comments.

Dr LEE (United States of America) said that the United States delegation had not been a member of the Sub-Committee this year but he wished to comment on the programme and budget, particularly the Sub-Committee report and the 1967 budget. A great deal of time had been spent discussing the eradication of smallpox and cholera and his delegation was concerned over the fact that it was very difficult to identify what WHO was doing for these two important diseases, which he presumed came under the heading of "bacterial diseases".

He noticed, however, that there had been a credit increase in the social and economic programmes of the Region for 1967, and yet the identification of the support of WHO for these two serious diseases was not readily shown or earmarked. His delegation would like to call the attention of the Committee to this point.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR pointed out that the programme requests from Member governments for 1967 had been submitted before the Eighteenth World Health Assembly or the Regional Committee had made known their wishes. He was sure that by next year when governments had the chance to consider the matter further, increases would be shown. Cholera came under the bacterial diseases heading. The analysis of field activities broken down into the major subject headings showed that in 1966, 0.67 per cent. had been allocated to this field, while in 1967 the percentage was 2.85 per cent. There was also in the 1967 budget a proposed communicable disease inter-country team (WPRO 137), the members of which could advise governments in connexion with activities in these fields.

Decision: The report of the Sub-Committee and the draft resolution were adopted (see resolution WP/RC16.R9).

5 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT PRESENTED BY THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSION GROUP: Item 19 of the Agenda (Document WP/RC16/14)

The CHAIRMAN invited Dr Taylor to present the report on the Technical Discussions. When approved, this would become an annex to the main Committee report.

Dr TAYLOR (New Zealand), Chairman of the Technical Discussions, stated that it was a privilege to draw the attention of the Committee

to document WP/RCl6/14 entitled "Summary Report on the Technical Discussions on Health Education". He hoped everyone had had the chance to review the document which was a sincere effort to produce a consolidated report of the views, ideas and suggestions of the three discussion groups, and the views and opinions expressed during the opening and closing sessions. He wished to acknowledge the assistance rendered by the rapporteurs in the plenary sessions and the chairman of the rapporteurs who had helped greatly in the preparation of the report.

A draft resolution was then presented by Dr ORSINI (France) emphasizing the importance of establishing health education services as an integral part of national health programmes and requesting the Regional Director to continue to assist Member States to obtain the support required for the planning and development of their health services.

Decision: There being no further comments, the draft resolution was adopted (see resolution WP/RCl6.R10).

6 TIME, PLACE AND DURATION OF THE SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH SESSIONS OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE: Item 20 of the Agenda

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR said that, unless the Committee decided otherwise, the seventeenth session would be held in Manila in accordance with the past procedure that every second year the meeting would be held at the regional headquarters. The Committee, at its fifteenth session, had accepted the invitation of the Government of Malaysia to hold its eighteenth session in Kuala Lumpur.

Dr LEE (United States of America), on behalf of the United States delegation, advised the Regional Committee that his country was planning to invite it to hold a session on American soil. He had been authorized to extend such an invitation and the time and place would be worked out with the Secretariat. He expected that by the time of the meeting in 1966, the details would be finalized and that the invitation from the United States would be extended at that time.

The CHAIRMAN, on behalf of the Committee, thanked the Representative of the United States of America for the invitation.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Item 21 of the Agenda

7.1 Resolution of Appreciation to Dr I.C. Fang

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the resolution of appreciation for Dr I.C. Fang, as he had had the privilege, with Dr Lee, of attending more meetings than any other representative. In so doing he added his personal tribute to Dr Fang and wished both him and Mrs Fang good health and long life in Taipei.

Dr LEE (United States of America) said it was a pleasure to second the resolution. He thought that it expressed much of the sentiments that most of the members had in their privilege of working with Dr Fang in this large area of the world, although it did not do full justice to what had been accomplished. He believed that everyone who had had the chance of working with Dr Fang appreciated his wise guidance, advice and counsel and would like to say more than the words expressed.

Dr TRUONG (Viet-Nam) said that he was in full agreement with the resolution. He had personally worked with Dr Fang and he now wished to take the opportunity to express his appreciation for what Dr Fang had achieved. In the name of the Vietnamese delegation he would like to thank him most sincerely for all the services that he had rendered for Viet-Nam. He wished him and Mrs Fang much happiness in his retirement.

Dr ORSINI (France), in the name of the French delegation, supported the statements of appreciation made and congratulated Dr Fang for what he had accomplished as head of the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific during his fifteen years of service.

Dr GATMAITAN (Philippines) said that the Philippine delegation would also like to express its deep appreciation and that of the Philippine Government for the devoted and efficient services that Dr Fang had rendered for the last fifteen years as Regional Director of the Western Pacific Region. Everyone knew that Dr Fang had developed the Regional Office from a handful of staff in a temporary office in 1950 into an organization of stature and respect. He was sure that everyone who knew him intimately understood how successful he had been in this important assignment. During the long association that he had with him, both personal and official, he had noted, and surely everyone had noted, some of the traits which fully made him an ideal international civil servant and an efficient administrator. His frankness and gentlemanliness had won the confidence and admiration of all his co-workers. His practice in delegating authority and responsibility not only helped develop his staff but enabled him to get most out of them.

Everyone understood the problems which faced the developing countries, particularly the public health ones, and his sound approach to these had won for him the friendship and everlasting gratitude of the citizens and people of the Philippines. He wished to add his tribute to those already made, and wished Dr and Mrs Fang happiness, good health and contentment, now, and in the future.

Dr SAYCOIE (Laos) stated that he wished to take the opportunity to inform Dr Fang how grateful his Government was for what he had done. WHO had given satisfactory help to Laos despite a difficult situation. The Regional Director, in spite of his many responsibilities, had taken the trouble to visit Laos to observe what had already been achieved. He expressed once again in the name of the Laotian Government his personal wishes to Dr Fang for a long, happy and prosperous retirement.

Dr JAYESURIA (Malaysia) stated that the Malaysian delegation fully supported the Resolution of Appreciation to Dr Fang and wished to associate itself with the sentiments of admiration and respect that had been expressed. On behalf of the Government, he thanked Dr Fang for all the help and assistance extended to Malaysia, and wished him and Mrs Fang the best of health.

Dr CHANG (China) said that his delegation wished to join the previous speakers who had expressed deep appreciation to Dr Fang for his accomplishments in the Region. It was a great honour for his country that Dr Fang had served the World Health Organization for fifteen years. They were glad to learn that he would stay in Taipei after his retirement.

Dr PHANN (Cambodia) remarked that the Cambodian delegation wished to join in the feelings expressed and to support the Resolution of Appreciation.

Dr GURD (United Kingdom) stated that there was clear indication of a unanimous feeling of respect and admiration for Dr Fang. On behalf of the United Kingdom, he wished to associate himself with all the expressions of goodwill that had already been made.

Dr ANDRADE (Portugal), on behalf of his delegation, fully supported the Resolution of Appreciation and hoped that Dr Fang in his retirement would enjoy happiness and health.

Dr TAYLOR (New Zealand) wished to be associated wholeheartedly with the resolution. On behalf of the New Zealanders, who had benefitted from Dr Fang's kindness over the years, he wished him and Mrs Fang good luck and long life.

Dr TATEYASHI (Japan), on behalf of his delegation, paid tribute to the very excellent work Dr Fang had done. His country would always remember Dr Fang's kindness and he hoped that Dr and Mrs Fang would visit Japan often in the future.

Dr THIEME (Western Samoa) stated that his Government wished to be associated with the Resolution of Appreciation. Even before independence, his country had received wise counsel and advice from Dr Fang and this was the reason why it had decided that the first international organization it would join would be WHO.

Decision: The draft resolution was adopted with acclamation (see resolution WP/RCl6.R11).

Dr FANG stated that he was overwhelmed by the generous and kind words which had been spoken. It was with a feeling of humility that he accepted all that had been said and he wished that he had done more and better. If he had done anything at all, it was because of three factors, namely, (1) he had a great Director-General who had guided and tolerated him for the twelve of his fifteen years of service; (2) he had had a very good staff who were not only competent, loyal and dedicated, but who had worked together, shared the failures and successes. He felt that much of the credit he had received was due to them; (3) the governments whom he had served had been consistently co-operative, generous and considerate and without their assistance and co-operation nothing would have been possible. He was now going to retire but in this jet age the world was very small and he would anticipate and expect to meet the representatives somewhere, somehow.

7.2 Resolution of appreciation to the Host Government, officers of the Committee and other persons who had made specific contributions to the meeting

Dr CHANG (China), Rapporteur, presented the resolution of appreciation.

Decision: The resolution was adopted (see resolution WP/RCl6.R12).

The meeting rose at 10.45 a.m.