



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DU PACIFIQUE OCCIDENTAL

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

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WPR/RC27/Working Paper/2
9 September 1976

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REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP
ON THE SIXTH GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK TO THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

(1) The Working Group considered agenda item 16 "Preparation of a Fifth Regional Programme of Work for a Specific Period (1978-1983 inclusive) (resolution WPR/RC26.R12)" and the discussion of this item during the second meeting on 6 September 1976, as well as the subject of the WHO Sixth General Programme of Work for a specific period (1978-1983 inclusive).

The Group:

- (a) noted resolution WHA29.20 adopted by the Twenty-ninth World Health Assembly;
- (b) recalled resolution WPR/RC26.R12, which indicated an order of priority for the regional programme for the principal and detailed objectives of the draft of the Sixth General Programme of Work for a specific period (1978-1983 inclusive);

(2) The Working Group noted that with the exception of four detailed objectives which were new, the principal and detailed objectives of the Sixth General Programme of Work approved by the World Health Assembly remained essentially the same as those contained in the draft, despite some rewording, amplification and rearrangement. In this connexion, the Working Group suggests the following priorities for the four new objectives within the regional programme:

- A. 3.1 Priority A
- 3.2 Priority A
- 7.1 Priority B
- B. 1.6 Priority B

(3) The Working Group also considered document WPR/RC27/10 which provided information on the necessity or otherwise to prepare a Fifth Regional Programme of Work for a Specific Period (1978-1983 inclusive).

The Working Group considers that the elaboration of a separate programme of work for the Western Pacific Region would serve no useful purpose, since the Sixth General Programme of Work for a Specific Period (1978-1983 inclusive) constitutes a sufficient guide for the delivery of the WHO programme in the Region;

(4) For the Regional Committee's consideration, draft resolutions incorporating the proposals contained in paragraphs (2) and (3) above are attached;

(5) The Working Group, under its first term of reference, see Annex 1, examined possible ways and means of setting up a mechanism whereby the Regional Committee could regularly review the progress made in the Western Pacific Region towards the development and implementation of the Sixth Programme of Work.

The Group considered it most desirable for the Regional Committee to make such regular reviews which could in fact serve a dual purpose:

Firstly, to provide an opportunity for the Regional Committee to be appraised of the development and implementation of the Sixth General Programme of Work within the Region and to take any necessary corrective action.

Secondly, to enable the Regional Committee to formulate a progress report from the Region on the Sixth General Programme of Work for the Executive Board. This should be of considerable benefit to the Executive Board in the carrying out of its annual reviews of the Sixth General Programme of Work (see resolution WHA29.20, operative paragraph (d)). At the same time, the Regional Committee could recommend to the Executive Board specific programme areas of high priority, suitable for in-depth studies by the Executive Board.

To put into effect a suitable mechanism to carry out such reviews, the Working Group suggests that the Regional Committee may wish to agree to the establishment of a subcommittee with membership to be rotated annually. It is envisaged that the subcommittee may be required to meet and/or correspond at times other than at Regional Committee Meetings. Its prime purpose would be to review, analyze and make recommendations, where appropriate, in connexion with the development and implementation of the Sixth General Programme of Work - as it affects the Western Pacific Region.

To facilitate the working of the Subcommittee, it is desirable that the membership be small but with the possibility of co-optation where necessary. A rotation of membership from member countries should however be made.

The WHO Secretariat would be responsible for the collection and preparation of suitable material for the Subcommittee's consideration. In this connexion, however, it is proposed that, as appropriate, members of the Subcommittee themselves, or else consultants recruited by the WHO, may visit countries to elicit first-hand supplementary data to help in the evaluation and appraisal of the various programmes. Such consultants should be recruited from countries within the Region and of course should be of high calibre and fully acceptable to those countries visited. It is to be noted that country visits by members of the Subcommittee and/or consultants, as well as the holding of any special meetings of the Subcommittee, will entail additional expenditure and budgetary provision will be required.

The Regional Committee, in turn, would transmit to the Executive Board appropriate reports and recommendations emanating from the Subcommittee.

(6) In connexion with its second term of reference:

The Working Group submits to the Regional Committee the following programme areas of high priority within the Region, which may be suitable for in-depth study during the Executive Board:

primary health care

prevention and control of communicable diseases

nutrition

In transmitting suggested topics to the Executive Board, the Regional Committee may wish to lay stress on the desirability of the Board selecting topics which may evoke a deeper appreciation of the changing role and wider involvement of WHO in the development process as well as the forging of closer links with other organizations in efforts towards socio-economic development.

ANNEX 1

WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE REGIONAL ACTION
IN CONNEXION WITH THE
SIXTH GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

Terms of Reference

1. The Working Group should examine and propose to the Regional Committee possible ways and means of setting up a mechanism whereby the Regional Committee could regularly review the progress made in the Western Pacific Region towards the development and implementation of the Sixth Programme of Work.
2. The Working Group should report to the Regional Committee which could then propose to the World Health Assembly and the Executive Board specific programmes which the Committee considers to be of the highest priority for in-depth studies by the Executive Board.
3. The Working Group should, with reference to resolution WHA29.48, propose to the Regional Committee a definition of "technical cooperation" to be suggested to the Executive Board for preparation of its definition of the term "technical cooperation".¹

¹ The subject of the third term of reference of the Working Group was discussed by the Sub-Committee on Programme and Budget.

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SIXTH GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK COVERING A SPECIFIC PERIOD:
PRINCIPAL AND DETAILED OBJECTIVES

The Regional Committee,

Having noted resolution WHA29.20 adopted by the Twenty-ninth
World Health Assembly;

Recalling resolution WPR/RC26.R12, which indicated an order of
priority for the regional programme to the principal and detailed
objectives of the draft of the Sixth General Programme of Work for a
specific period (1978-1983 inclusive),

1. NOTES that, with the exception of four detailed objectives which
are new, the principal and detailed objectives of the Sixth General
Programme of Work approved by the World Health Assembly remain essentially
the same as those contained in the draft, despite some rewording,
amplification and rearrangement;

2. REAFFIRMS that the priorities indicated in resolution WPR/RC26.R12
remain valid;

3. ACCORDS the following priorities for the regional programme to the
four new objectives:

- | | | | |
|----|-----|----------|-----|
| A. | 3.1 | Priority | ___ |
| | 3.2 | Priority | ___ |
| | 7.1 | Priority | ___ |
| B. | 1.6 | Priority | ___ |

PREPARATION OF A REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the information provided by the Regional Director regarding the necessity or otherwise to prepare a Fifth Regional Programme of Work for a Specific Period (1978-1983 inclusive);¹

Having, by its resolutions WPR/RC26.R12 and WPR/RC27.R__, accorded regional priorities to the principal and detailed objectives of the Sixth General Programme of Work for a Specific Period (1978-1983 inclusive);

CONSIDERS that the elaboration of a separate programme of work for the Western Pacific Region will serve no useful purpose, since the Sixth General Programme of Work for a Specific Period (1978-1983 inclusive) constitutes a sufficient guide for the delivery of the WHO programme in the Region.

¹ Document WPR/RC27/10.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

The Regional Committee,

Having noted the report of the Working Group on the application of the General Programme of Work within the Western Pacific Region,¹

1. DECIDES to establish a sub-committee with membership to be rotated annually, to review, analyze and make recommendations on the development and implementation of the General Programme of Work as it affects the Western Pacific Region;
2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to take appropriate action, including the provision of necessary budget, to enable the Sub-Committee on the General Programme of Work to be established by the Regional Committee at its twenty-eighth session.

¹Document WPR/RC27/Working Paper/2.

SIXTH GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK COVERING A SPECIFIC
PERIOD: PRIORITIES FOR IN-DEPTH STUDIES

The Regional Committee,

Having noted the report of the Working Group on the application of the Sixth General Programme of Work within the Western Pacific Region,¹

Referring particularly to operative paragraph 2(b) of resolution WHA29.20 adopted by the Twenty-ninth World Health Assembly,

REQUESTS the Regional Director to transmit to the Director-General for the consideration of the Executive Board the following recommendations:

(1) that the programme areas listed below, of high priority within the Western Pacific Region, are suitable for in-depth study by the Executive Board:

- (a) primary health care,
- (b) prevention and control of communicable diseases,
- (c) nutrition,

(2) that stress be laid on the desirability of the Executive Board selecting topics which may evoke a deeper appreciation of the changing role and wider involvement of WHO in the development process, as well as the forging of closer links with other organizations in efforts towards socioeconomic development.

¹Document WPR/RC27/Working Paper/2.