SELECTION OF TOPIC FOR THE
TECHNICAL PRESENTATION DURING THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION
OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The Regional Director presents in this document possible topics for the Technical Presentation during the thirty-second session of the Regional Committee, in 1981.

The Regional Committee, at its twenty-fifth session, adopted a resolution which decided that the Technical Discussions held at each of its sessions since 1952, with the exception of the 1970 session, should be replaced by a technical presentation. The topic for the presentation will deal with a special subject, or a health problem and/or approaches to a health problem.

"Community involvement in the development of health services" is the topic for the Technical Presentation at the current thirty-first session of the Regional Committee.

In choosing the topic for the Technical Presentation at the thirty-second session in 1981, the Committee may wish to consider the following suggestions of the Secretariat:

(1) Health education and rural water supply and sanitation
(2) Health needs of the disabled
(3) Health needs of adolescents
(4) The expanded programme on immunization

Another possibility the Regional Committee may wish to consider is related to the increasing efforts to correlate the work of the Regional Committee to that of the World Health Assembly and the Executive Board. The Technical Discussions at the Health Assembly could be much enhanced if they were preceded by discussions either at or during the Regional Committee; that is as an item on the agenda or as the topic of the Technical Presentation. The subject of the Technical Discussion during the Thirty-fifth World Health Assembly, in 1982, will be "Alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems". The Committee is reminded that "Alcoholism and other dependence problems" was discussed as an item on the agenda of the twenty-seventh session of the Regional Committee in 1976 and subsequently resolution WPR/RC27.R5 was adopted. The subject, which is a serious one for the Region, will be discussed to some extent at the current session of the Regional Committee when the regional mental health programme is reviewed under provisional agenda item 25.

Representatives may, of course, wish to suggest other topics for the Regional Committee to consider.