

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

## WESTERN PACIFIC REGION

Fourth Session  
Tokyo  
3rd to 8th September 1953

TIME, PLACE AND DURATION OF NEXT TWO MEETINGS

The Third Session of the Regional Committee decided that the meetings in both 1953 and 1954 should be held in Manila unless invitations were received in good time to hold them elsewhere, and further that the meetings would be held in the second or third week in September. On 7th March 1953 an invitation to hold this Fourth Session in Tokyo was received from the Japanese Government, and the Regional Director entered therefore into negotiations with the Government and made the necessary arrangements for this meeting in accordance with the authority given to him in Resolution WP/RC3/R9.

Budgetary provisions for Organizational meetings are included under an appropriation section which is prepared by WHO Headquarters. Headquarters has in the past met difficulties in making suitable budgetary provisions for regional committee meetings in view of the fact that the Organization's budget estimates are prepared two years in advance while the site of each regional committee meeting has been known only for one year in advance.

The Regional Director has been urged by Headquarters to propose to the Regional Committee that it decide on the place of meeting not only for 1954, but for 1955 as well. If such a decision is taken, it will be possible to submit, together with the Proposed Programme and Budget Estimates for 1955, sufficient details to enable Headquarters to make adequate provision for the meeting in 1955.

Should the principle of rotation of regional committee meetings be approved, Manila would then automatically be the place of the Fifth Session in 1954. It should be noted that the budget provision which was made last year was based on the assumption that the meeting in 1954 would be in Manila in the absence of an invitation to hold it elsewhere. The existing budget provision will not be adequate for a meeting held outside Manila, and the Regional Committee may therefore wish to confirm that the meeting in 1954 will be held in Manila. If the 1954 meeting is held in Manila, it will be under the sponsorship of the Regional Office and will not in any way commit the Philippines to be the host country.

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Should it be decided that the meeting in 1955 be held outside Manila, it would be necessary to determine the place, with an alternate place if considered necessary, which again would mean that invitations from Governments should be received at the earliest possible date in order to permit proper costing to be made before the relevant appropriation section is prepared by Headquarters. This computation is prepared in October. Should an invitation be received later than the early part of October, it would be difficult to accept it unless the host government should offer to meet the cost over and above the budget provision.

In the light of previous experience it would seem that the first half of September is desirable for holding regional committee meetings and that the duration of meetings should be approximately six working days.