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University of Malaya
Friday, 16 September 1955, at 9:00 a.m.

CHAIRMAN: Dr. R. H. Bland

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Fifth Meeting

Friday, 16 September 1955, at 9:00 a.m.

I Representatives of Member States

AUSTRALIA	Dr. J. T. Gunther Mr. C. G. Woodard
CAMBODIA	Dr. Mam-Komsann Dr. Leng Pao
CHINA (TAIWAN)	Dr. J. Heng Liu Dr. C. H. Yen Dr. T. C. Hsu
FRANCE	Dr. M. Demange Dr. Lacour
JAPAN	Dr. Masayoshi Yamaguchi Mr. Takao Matsuo Mr. Akira Saita
KOREA	Mr. Young Kee Kim Dr. Eung Soo Han
LAOS	Dr. Oudom Souvannavong Dr. Thongphet
NETHERLANDS	Dr. J. Bierdrager
NEW ZEALAND	Dr. H. B. Turbott
PHILIPPINES	Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Dr. Clemente Gatmaitan
PORTUGAL	Dr. Abel Simoes de Carvalho
UNITED KINGDOM	Dr. R. H. Bland Dr. K. C. Yeo Dr. E. C. Vardy
UNITED STATES	Dr. A. S. Osborne Dr. Richard K. C. Lee
VIETNAM	Dr. Le van Khai Dr. Nguyen van Hong

II Representatives of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Dr. S. S. De

UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE BOARD

Sir Alexander MacFarquhar

III Representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations in official relations with WHO

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CHEST PHYSICIANS

Dr. Narayan C. Sen-Gupta

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF MILITARY
MEDICINE AND PHARMACY

Brigadier D. Bluett

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ROMAN
CATHOLIC NURSES AND MEDICO-SOCIAL
WORKERS

Sister W. de Cruz
Nurse Jean Woodford

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

Madame Nooi Ah Kuan

INTERNATIONAL DENTAL FEDERATION

Dr. F. A. C. Oehlers

LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES

Dr. R. H. Bland

WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Dr. H. B. M. Murphy

WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED
NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS

Mr. P. K. Hernon

IV Others

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

Dr. Richmond K. Anderson

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

Dr. Guy Loison

1 INTEGRATION OF FIELD PROJECTS

DR. LE VAN KHAI (Vietnam) referred to Dr. Turbott's remarks on the previous afternoon and stated that a very interesting question had been raised. Requests for implementation of programmes had to be placed a long time in advance and therefore experts were sometimes sent to the country to study the problems and budgetary requests presented. As far as the second point raised by Dr. Turbott was concerned, this would imply an increase in personnel which would have to be supported by the Health Assembly.

MR. A. SAITA (Japan) said that long term health planning had been repeatedly stressed in the past. This was essential if WHO assistance was to be fully utilized but it was often the countries who were most in need of assistance who were least able to make long term plans owing to lack of funds and lack of technical knowledge. If the proposal of the New Zealand representative were applied too rigidly some countries would lack WHO assistance.

Dr. H. B. TURBOTT (New Zealand) stated that he did not think the idea could be carried out perfectly even if a resolution were adopted, but it was so much to the advantage of countries that it was worth the extra cost. DR. GUNTHER (Australia) supported Dr. Turbott's suggestion which he felt could only bring good. MR. A. SAITA (Japan) read to the Committee a draft resolution which it was agreed should be mimeographed and distributed before being discussed.

2 ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION CAMPAIGNS

The Secretary stated that this item had been placed once again on the agenda in view of the resolution passed during the fifteenth session of the Executive Board. He felt that much valuable work could be done in the Region in this particular field and the Committee might wish to adopt a resolution emphasizing the importance of environmental sanitation activities.

DR. H. B. TURBOTT (New Zealand) proposed the adoption of the following draft resolution which was carried unanimously:

"The Regional Committee,

Having noted resolution EB15.R19 of the Executive Board,

/recognizing the need

recognizing the need for improvement in environmental sanitation in Member Countries and noting the statement on present status and progress made as given in the Regional Director's Annual Report;

Also noting with approval plans for regional and zonal seminars for exchange of information and stimulation of activities in the field of environmental sanitation;

RECOMMENDS that all Member Countries, particularly in developing countries, give priority to both short and long-term planning in environmental sanitation in their annual programmes and budgets in public health."

3 PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR A SPECIFIC PERIOD

The Secretary stated that following consideration of the resolutions passed at previous sessions of the Committee, and having studied the requests for assistance received from governments in the Region since the establishment of the Regional Office, a draft programme of work had been submitted for the consideration of the Committee. The Committee proceeded to examine the document section by section.

Referring to the appointment of area representatives referred to in Section 2, 2.1, DR. LE VAN KHAI (Vietnam) stated that this seemed to meet the wish of the representative from New Zealand as such area representatives would help countries to establish their programmes.

The Chairman drew the attention of the Committee to paragraph 2.1.4 which he felt was an important one.

DR. H. B. TURBOTT (New Zealand) stated that he thought the document was an excellent one, expressing very well the lines along which the Region proposed to work, and he was especially pleased to note the paragraph regarding the training of personnel.

The Chairman presented to the Committee a draft resolution and asked whether any representative would care to propose it.

DR. J. N. RODRIGUEZ (Philippines) said that the document showed evidence of very careful preparation and he was happy to propose its adoption.

The following resolution was therefore adopted unanimously:

"The Regional Committee,

Having carefully reviewed the proposed programme of work covering the period 1957 - 1960,

/CONSIDERS that this

CONSIDERS that this programme of work provides a basis for the development of programmes in the Western Pacific Region, and

REQUESTS the Regional Director to report at each Regional Committee on any developments in the general programme of work, resulting from requests received from Member States."

4 RELATIONS WITH UNICEF

The Committee reviewed the document prepared on relations with UNICEF and unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"The Regional Committee,

NOTES resolution WHA8.12 adopted by the Eighth World Health Assembly on the subject of relations with UNICEF."

5 SPEECH BY DR. G. LOISON (SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION)

DR. LOISON said that he was grateful for the invitation to speak as he carried greetings from the Secretary-General to the Committee. He emphasized the value of the exchange of observers at conferences and spoke of the presence of the Regional Adviser on Malaria at the annual meeting of the Research Council in June. Much could be achieved by co-operation between the two organizations. The projects implemented by the South Pacific Commission fell into three headings; those which were of interest to both organizations, such as health education and leprosy; secondly, the projects assisted by WHO which did not have priority in the Commission, such as yaws control; and thirdly, there were questions dealt with by the Commission which did not seem to appear in WHO documents, namely, a nutrition project, vitamin research and filariasis. Dr. Loison spoke of the forthcoming conference on filariasis in Kuala Lumpur and said the Commission much appreciated the invitation that one of their specialists should attend. There was much work to be done in the Region and close co-operation between the two organizations would prevent overlapping.

6 PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

The Committee reviewed the document which had been prepared on public information activities and adopted the following resolution:

"The Regional Committee,

Having noted the resolution passed by the Eighth World Health Assembly inviting regional committees to consider ways and means of

/improving information activities

improving information activities in their regions where necessary, and
Taking into consideration that there have been two resolutions
passed in this regard, at the second and fourth sessions of the
Regional Committee,

RECOMMENDS that each Member State which has not done so should
take immediate steps to implement the above-mentioned resolutions."

7 LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UNITED NATIONS EXPANDED
PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Secretary stated that this item had been placed on the agenda
with a view to drawing attention to the added responsibilities of health
administration following the introduction of the new procedure in regard
to the allocation of funds. If the necessary priority were to be
given to health projects in the expanded programme of technical assis-
tance, it was essential that representatives from the health admini-
strations should be included in the national body which prepared the
final programme requests.

DR. LE VAN KHAI (Vietnam) proposed the adoption of the following
resolution which was carried, thirteen voting in favour and one
abstaining.

"The Regional Committee,

Having considered resolution WHA8.33 adopted by the Eighth World
Health Assembly,

REITERATES the existence of a direct relationship between
economic, social and health factors in the economic development of
under-developed countries;

ENDORSES the desire of the Assembly that the methods of
developing procedures for country programmes should be as simple as
possible;

NOTES the decision of the World Health Assembly to continue to
defer final consideration of the amendments to the basic resolution
222 (IX) until such time as sufficient experience in the operation of
the new system of allocation of funds has been gained;

REQUESTS the Regional Director to report to the Director-General
his observations on the practical aspects of the new procedure;

URGES Member States of the Western Pacific Region to give the
necessary priority to health projects in planning their country
programmes; and

/RECOMMENDS to the

RECOMMENDS to the Member States of the Western Pacific Region that representatives of their health administrations shall be included in the body empowered to allocate Technical Assistance funds within the country."

8 MALARIA ERADICATION

The Secretary stated that during the early years of WHO assistance in the campaign against communicable diseases, the word 'eradication' was never used, because although it was known that the spread of a disease could be controlled, or held in check, its complete elimination or eradication was not feasible either from the financial or technical standpoint. The Secretary then proceeded to define some of the terms used in document WP/RC6/15 and referred the Committee to paragraph 4 on page 7 of the document which outlined the action taken by WHO.

DR. C. H. YEN (China) stated that he did not believe that any single State could undertake the eradication of malaria alone and that concerted action on a regional basis was very important. For this reason he wished to move the adoption of the resolution suggested in the document.

DR. LE VAN KHAI (Vietnam) proposed that the latter part of the last paragraph of the proposed resolution should be deleted and that the final paragraph should become the penultimate paragraph.

The following resolution, in its amended form, was then put to the meeting and carried by thirteen votes, with one abstention.

"The Regional Committee,

Having considered the report on malaria eradication submitted by the Regional Director,

Noting the recommendation of the Malaria Conference for the Western Pacific and South-East Asia Regions in Baguio in November 1954, that the ultimate goal of a nationwide malaria control programme be the eradication of the disease,

Considering resolution EB15.R67, adopted by the Executive Board at its fifteenth session, calling attention to the urgency and importance of malaria eradication,

Noting resolution WHA8.30 of the Eighth World Health Assembly requesting governments to intensify plans of nationwide malaria control so that malaria eradication may be achieved and the regular insecticide

/spraying campaigns

spraying campaigns terminated before the potential danger of a development of resistance to insecticides in anopheline vector species materializes,

Realizing that in some countries in the Western Pacific Region, the problem of finding an effective and economical method of eradicating malaria has not yet been solved, but that pilot projects have been started and are expected to start in areas to help solve this problem,

Realizing, further, that lack of adequately trained local personnel as well as financial considerations have prevented many countries in the Region from undertaking a more vigorous malaria control campaign,

Taking note of the establishment of a Malaria Eradication Special Account for the purpose of assisting governments in undertaking research and in providing supplies, equipment and technical advice, to facilitate the world-wide eradication of malaria;

REQUESTS governments to intensify their plans of malaria control so that malaria eradication may be achieved as soon as possible;

STRESSES the importance of intra- and inter-regional co-ordination of malaria campaigns;

REQUESTS the Regional Director to obtain information from governments of malarious countries with a view to determining what assistance would be needed to expedite the eradication of malaria from the Region."

The Director-General said that he would like to take the opportunity of drawing representatives' attention to the resolution of the Eighth World Health Assembly establishing a Special Account which would be credited with voluntary contributions received in any usable currency and should also be credited with voluntary contributions in kind, whether in the form of services or supplies and equipment. It was important that each Member should think how it could best contribute to this fund. Money was not the only thing. He understood that in other parts of the world some governments were prepared to provide on loan the services of their trained personnel to help others with their malaria problems. It was important that representatives at the meeting should think about this and on their return home see how their governments could best contribute to the Malaria Eradication Special Account established by the Assembly.

/DR. J. HENG LIU

DR. J. HENG LIU (China) stated that his government was considering making a contribution to the Special Malaria Fund of ten tons of DDT and sixty sprayers which had been manufactured in Taiwan and had the approval of the experts in the Regional Office. He could not at the moment commit his government as confirmation of agreement was still awaited. Dr. Liu then referred to the importance of inter-regional co-ordination, mentioning the two Asian conferences held under the auspices of WHO in connection with the malaria problem, and stated that he wished to propose the following resolution which would be supplementary to the one just passed:

"The Regional Committee,

Realizing the advantages of gathering together malariologists responsible for national malaria campaigns in the Western Pacific and South-East Asia Regions thus enabling them to discuss their experience and problems in meetings attended by other experts, and by representatives of international organizations and bilateral assistance bodies;

Having learned of the success of the First Asian Malaria Conference in Bangkok in 1953, which was concerned chiefly with the organizational and administrative aspects of malaria control programmes, and that of the Second Asian Malaria Conference in Baguio in 1954, which discussed the technical problems of malaria control in the Western Pacific and South-East Asia Regions;

Believing that the possibility of the development of insecticide resistance in vector species may necessitate the reorientation of many malaria control programmes in the two regions, and that a Third Asian Malaria Conference, besides discussing the technical and administrative aspects of the present campaigns and the progress made after the Second Asian Malaria Conference, could advise on how to prevent the dangers to which insecticide resistance in anophelines would lead;

REQUESTS the Regional Director to communicate to the Director-General of the World Health Organization the desire of the Regional Committee to hold a Third Asian Malaria (inter-regional) Conference in 1956 or 1957."

DR. J. N. RODRIGUEZ (Philippines) seconded the resolution which was also endorsed by DR. E. C. VARDY (United Kingdom) who felt that the situation should be watched carefully otherwise all the money spent in the past would be wasted.

/MR. A. SAITA

MR. A. SAITA (Japan) asked that it be put on record that despite the fact that malaria was not a major health hazard in Japan, the Government was extremely interested in the programme and would make a contribution to the programme. Although no definite instructions had yet been received as to what form this would take, this might include supplies in the form of DDT or the services of experts in order that malaria eradication schemes in the Region might be strengthened.

DR. J. BIERDRAGER (Netherlands) suggested that the last paragraph of the resolution should be altered as follows:

"Requests the Regional Director to communicate to the Director-General of the World Health Organization the desire of the Regional Committee to hold a Third Asian Malaria Conference in 1956 or 1957."

DR. LIU (China) agreed to the proposed amendment.

DR. LE VAN KHAI (Vietnam) expressed the gratitude of his government to the Government of the Philippines for having accepted for training ten laboratory workers, and to the Government of China for having trained twenty leaders of spraying teams.

The draft resolution proposed by the representative from China and amended in accordance with the request of the representative of the Netherlands was unanimously passed by the Committee.

9 CAMPAIGNS AGAINST SMALLPOX

The Committee reviewed document WP/RC6/16 - Campaigns against Smallpox.

DR. J. BIERDRAGER (Netherlands) referred to the proposal made by DR. LE VAN KHAI earlier in the session in regard to the distribution of reports of Member States and the recommendations of experts on projects to interested Member States in the Region and suggested that the draft resolution contained in the document should be amended to include this proposal.

The Secretary explained that in anticipation of requests from governments for copies of the smallpox report, he had taken steps to secure the permission of the countries concerned for the distribution of the reports. He assured the Committee that in accordance with the resolution passed previously, he would see that copies would be sent to all Member States in the Region, unless the governments concerned had any objections.

/DR. K. C. YEO

DR. K. C. YEO (United Kingdom) proposed that the resolution appearing in document WP/RC6/16 should be adopted.

The following resolution was therefore put to the vote, thirteen voting in favour with one abstention:

"The Regional Committee,

Having noted,

(a) the steps taken to carry out a survey on smallpox in the Western Pacific Region,

(b) that consideration has been given at WHO Headquarters to the practical implications of the recommendations in the report, and

(c) that copies of the report will be sent to the countries and territories concerned; and

Having considered resolution WHA8.38 of the Eighth World Health Assembly in regard to the conduct of campaigns against smallpox;

URGES the health administrations in the countries and territories concerned to report at the next session of the Regional Committee the steps they make have taken to implement the recommendations contained in the reports."

10 REVISION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGION

The Chairman informed the Committee of the proposal made by the Regional Director that a sub-committee should be established to discuss this item. DR. J. T. GUNTHER (Australia) endorsed this proposal which was supported by MR. A. SAITA (Japan).

The Chairman appointed representatives from the following countries to serve on the Committee: Australia, Japan, France, United States.

11 REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 1957

The Secretary read the draft report to the Committee which was then discussed by the representatives.

DR. R. K. C. LEE (United States) proposed that the resolution submitted by the Sub-Committee should be adopted and commended the Sub-Committee for having studied the budget so thoroughly in the brief time allotted. He drew attention to the suggestion that if the precedent had been established for the Regional Committee to examine the programme and budget, opportunity should be given to other Member Countries to serve in future years in order that they might become better acquainted with the programme and budget of the Region.

/DR. J. T. GUNTHER

DR. J. T. GUNTHER (Australia) said that if the increase in the budget was due to a higher percentage of the world total being given to the Western Pacific Region then Australia would fully support the level of the draft budget. If, however, it required a higher world ceiling then Australia would oppose it. A demand for 20% increase in regular funds was unrealistic. There was every reason to believe that other Regions would seek similar increases making the task of the Director-General a most difficult one.

A sub-committee to examine the programme and budget had been established and it had been his hope that this sub-committee would have indicated to the Director-General for his guidance that part of the regional programme that could be rejected or modified if world funds would not allow the 20% increase. The Director-General had stated that he had the task of submitting the world budget to the Assembly and that he would appreciate any advice given to him. Further, the Executive Board had come to the conclusion that Regional Committees were not sufficiently scrutinizing the projects submitted by governments before recommending them for inclusion in the Director-General's programme proposals.

DR. GUNTHER drew the attention of the Committee to certain items in the budget in which he believed that savings could and should be made. For example, the venereal disease and treponematoses programme had been increased by 42%, mental health from \$5,500 to \$43,156. Australia did not wish to deny aid to any state or country and did wish to see the public-health services in such places as Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam strengthened. However, he wished to point out that the States making major contributions to the Organization's funds had a limit, it was up to governments to be realistic and the Region was the place to start. He expressed regret that he could not give full support to the Committee's report nor could he support any motion to send forward the budget in its present form unless assurance was given that the world ceiling would remain much the same as for 1956 and the Western Pacific Region was to obtain a greater share which, without doubt, it deserved. In this instance,

/Australia would

Australia would fully support the budget.

The Secretary stated that as far as an increase in funds was concerned there were approximately \$150,000 more than the figure given for 1956 and referred to the resolution passed by the Seventh World Health Assembly recommending that the African and Western Pacific Regions should be given preference in the allocation of funds, these two regional offices having been established last. As far as the venereal disease and treponematoses programmes were concerned, the Regional Director's report mentioned the work which had just been started in this field in the South Pacific. A further request for the extension of this type of assistance had been received and it was a great satisfaction to know that the governments in this area were interested in seeking WHO assistance. The field of mental health had been long neglected and the seminar held in Sydney was responsible for giving impetus to this particular field. A number of fellowships had been awarded so that people could be trained in this field. As far as the training of local personnel was concerned, emphasis had been placed on the training of national counterparts and governments in the Region were much interested in training and demonstration projects. He referred to DR. GUNTHER's statement that he would support the budget if more money was being given to the Region and expressed appreciation of Australia's leadership in this connection.

The Director-General was glad that the Australian representative realized that the normal statutory increases had to be taken into consideration and would reflect an increase in the budget for 1957. It should also be remembered that, by decision of the Assembly, provision had to be made for the cost of all those WHO project staff hitherto carried by UNICEF. This would reflect a further increase. When the budget level was considered, the possibility of inactive Members resuming full participation had also to be borne in mind. With the return of any such a Member, an increase in contributions could be anticipated; but it would also mean increased expenditure due to the needs of that Member and to the necessity of having to use a language not at present in use by the Organization. Though

/for these reasons

for these reasons he could give no definite answer about the exact percentage of any increase there would be in the overall budget figure he would present to the Assembly, he could assure the Australian representative that it would by no means be commensurate with the percentage increase shown in the budget for the Western Pacific Region. The size of this was due to the fact that it was the policy to increase proportionally as much as possible the allocations made to the Western Pacific and African Regions, which had been established more recently. He could not say which of these regions had the bigger percentage increase in allocation for 1957; but he could say that the longer established regions had comparatively much smaller percentage increases in their allocations for 1957. If, as was suggested, the Regional Committee when examining its proposed programme and budget indicated priorities, they would be useful if the Assembly decided to cut the programme and budget he submitted to that body.

DR. R. K. C. LEE (United States) agreed with the remarks made by the Australian representative and stated that he was not in full agreement with the report of the Sub-Committee. There were certain points such as mental health and area representatives which were questionable. He was, however, pleased that the proposed resolution called attention to the considerable increase in the proposed budget. He hoped that in due course the sub-committee set up to study the budget would have the courage to help the Regional Director make cuts or to give him instructions on the deletion of items. In this way the Committee would be gradually able to set up the type of budget that would be more acceptable to Member States.

The following resolution submitted by the Sub-Committee was then considered:

"The Regional Committee,

Recognizing that there is an accepted procedure of referring the programme and budget of a Regional Committee to the Director-General;

/Recognizing that

Recognizing that the Regional Director has developed the programme for individual countries in 1957 in conformity with requests from Member States;

Having examined with care the 1957 Programme and Budget estimates for the Western Pacific Region as submitted by the Regional Director; and

Having noted the considerable increase in estimated provision for expenditures from Regular funds;

RESOLVES that the Regional Committee take note of the 1957 Programme and Budget for the Western Pacific Region and instruct the Regional Director to transmit it to the Director-General."

There were thirteen votes in support of the motion and one abstention.

DR. H. B. TURBOTT (New Zealand) then moved the adoption of the following resolution on the Supplementary Budget:

"The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Supplementary List of Projects contained in the addendum to document WP/RC6/5, Proposed Programme and Budget Estimates;

AGREES that the projects should be considered part of the regional programme and should therefore be forwarded to the Director-General for submission to the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly;

REAFFIRMS the authority given to the Regional Director at the fourth and fifth sessions (WP/RC4/R6, WP/RC4/R12 and WP/RC5.R7) to establish priorities in 1956 and 1957; and

REQUESTS the Regional Director to implement as many as possible of the projects in the Supplementary List from savings in the regular budget and from additional Technical Assistance Funds which may become available within the country target figures or for regional and inter-regional programmes."

The motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.