

WORLD HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR  
THE WESTERN PACIFIC

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS

Seventh Session  
Manila  
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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PROCEDURE AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE DRAMATIZATION  
FIRST SESSION 1956 TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS

Each year the first session of the Technical Discussions is designed to present pertinent material in a way that will be both provocative and also serve as a point of departure for the discussions. This year it has been decided to use a dramatization and a group of Philippine health and other workers has kindly consented to assist with this presentation. The situation you are about to witness was worked out with this group, but it is to be emphasized that this situation is in no way intended to portray conditions in the Philippines but is made up so far as possible of elements and problems likely to be found in many parts of the Western Pacific Region. It is hoped therefore that any questions about the situation as presented will not be directed to members of the dramatic group.

Within the framework of this hypothetical local situation an attempt has been made to give some of the factors involved in the care of the child from one to six. Obviously time will not permit even a mention of all the problems of this age group which might be expected to exist in such a situation. It is hoped that enough will be said to stimulate thinking and discussion.

After the dramatization you will be invited to discuss it in terms of its practicability, and to suggest things which might have been brought out in such a situation, as well as approaches which were not mentioned. As a means of facilitating the discussion, you are asked to listen with certain specific questions in mind.

1. Which of the problems and approaches presented do you consider most useful.
2. What important problems and approaches are not given, or if given, are not treated sufficiently.
3. What ideas in the presentation may be useful in your country.

After the presentation, you will have an opportunity to compare notes among yourselves and then to present and discuss your findings.

Background Information

As mentioned above, this is a hypothetical situation and the following information is given as background for the dramatization.

Resulting from their participation in the Technical Discussions of the 1956 Regional Committee Meeting the two representatives from country "X" returned to their home country convinced that more should be done about the care of the child from one to six. This was discussed with other officials in the National Health Department and it was recognized that although something should be done, the country does not have the facilities, funds or personnel to study and deal with this problem on a country-wide scale. It is therefore decided that a few pilot studies should be started to see what can be learned as a basis for developing a gradual expanded programme.

Health district "Y" has therefore been selected as a possible location for a pilot study. Some of the reasons for this selection are its urban-rural population, its progressive health officer, a few well-trained health workers and the success this health district has recently had with a tuberculosis-control demonstration.

The health district has a population of 350 000, twenty per cent of which lives in the only city. The area is mainly rural with a few small towns scattered throughout the district. The health officer and two other nurses have received training in public health at the Institute of Public Health in the country. The rural midwife supervisor and Chief Sanitary Inspector have received specialized training. The remainder of the health department staff have only had a short refresher course in public health, and for the most part are indigenous to the district.

The national health authority has agreed to provide limited assistance in the way of technical advice to each of the pilot study areas. As the drama begins, the Director of the Maternal and Child Health Section in the National Health Department has come to health district "Y" to discuss the details of the study with the health officer. The health officer has requested the mayor to invite the representatives of the district likely to be concerned and involved in such a study for an exploratory meeting before he decides whether to accept the proposal of the National Health Department.

As the scene opens, the mayor is presiding. The following people are in attendance. (The identify of each character is also listed).

Mayor	- Dr. F.Z. Cruz Chief, Division of Sanitation Manila Health Department
District Health Officer	- Dr. M.C. Icasiano City Health Officer Manila Health Department
Public-Health Nurse Supervisor	- Mrs. M.R. Ordoñez Nurse Consultant Manila Health Department

Rural Midwife Supervisor	- Mrs. I.P. Samson Nurse-Midwife Supervisor Bureau of Hospitals
Chief Sanitary Inspector	- Mr. G. Carpio Health Educator Manila Health Department
Health Teacher	- Mrs. T.V. Tiglao Health and Nutrition Educator Rural Health Demonstration and Training Centre, Quezon City
Farmer's Association President	- Mr. E.L. Rigor Agricultural Extension Division Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Women's Club President	- Mrs. A.G. Makabali Assistant, Division of Nursing Department of Health
District Hospital Director	- Dr. Ismaol Villarica Bureau of Hospitals
Private Medical Practitioner	- Dr. E. Agustin Director Personnel Training, Health Education and Information Department of Health
Maternal and Child Health Director - National Health Department	- Dr. A.S. Mangay Chief, Rural Health Demonstration and Training Centre Quezon City