



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC  
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DU PACIFIQUE OCCIDENTAL

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

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1 July 1965

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Seoul  
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Provisional agenda item 17

MATERIAL SUPPORT OF THE PROGRAMME FOR GLOBAL ERADICATION  
OF SMALLPOX BY COUNTRIES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGION

(Item proposed by the Government of the  
United States of America)

The Regional Director has the honour to submit to the sixteenth session of the Regional Committee the text of a communication from the Government of the United States of America.

Letter dated 11 June 1965 addressed to the Director-General by  
His Excellency, Ambassador Roger W. Tubby, United States  
Representative to the European Office of the United Nations  
and other International Organizations, received on 24 June 1965

"Dear Mr. Director-General:

I am requested to transmit to you, on behalf of Surgeon General Dr. Luther Terry, the suggestion that the following item be included in the Agenda of the 16th Session of the Western Pacific Regional Committee:

'Material support of the program for Global Eradication of Smallpox by Countries of the Region'.

We are proposing a similar Agenda item for the next session of the Regional Committee of the Americas. Possibly you may desire to propose the same item for the Agendas of other Regional Committees this year.

/Our objective ...

Our objective is, of course to obtain material support for this program from individual countries, in accord with Resolution WHA18.38.

May I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my high consideration.

Roger W. Tubby,  
Ambassador."

The text of resolution WHA18.38 referred to in the letter from the Government of the United States of America appears on the next page.

RESOLUTION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

EIGHTEENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA18.38  
19 May 1965

SMALLPOX ERADICATION PROGRAMME

The Eighteenth World Health Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Director-General on the present status of smallpox in the world, and the results achieved;<sup>1</sup>

Noting with concern that, though some recently endemic countries have eradicated the disease as a result of well-organized campaigns, progress in general is slow and major endemic foci remain in Asia, Africa and the Americas;

Noting that the Director-General has estimated that smallpox might be eradicated within 10 years for an estimated international expenditure of US\$ 23.5-31.0 million in addition to the provision which the countries having endemic smallpox themselves can make;

Believing that strong reaffirmation of the intent to eradicate smallpox would present a challenge and a stimulus to the world to mobilize resources to achieve the objective, and that the support required is available within the international and national programmes devoted to world social and economic development; and

Recognizing the need to review the technical and administrative requirements of programmes, to ensure the extensive use of freeze-dried vaccine and the development of its production in endemic areas and to provide annually for the mass phase of the campaign up to 50 million doses of freeze-dried vaccine in addition to supplies locally produced or already being provided in bilateral agreements, or through voluntary contributions,

1. DECLARES the world-wide eradication of smallpox to be one of the major objectives of the Organization;
2. REQUESTS the countries having smallpox and without eradication programmes to initiate them and the countries with programmes to intensify them;
3. REQUESTS Member States to give the programme greater support than in the past and to provide the substantial contributions essential for its execution;

/4. REQUESTS ...

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<sup>1</sup>Documents A18/P&B/10 and Corr.1.

4. REQUESTS governments which carry on bilateral programmes of aid to include smallpox eradication in their programmes of assistance;
5. REQUESTS governments to take early steps to establish basic health services for the maintenance phase which would also serve the eradication of other communicable diseases;
6. REQUESTS the Director-General to seek anew the necessary financial and other resources required to achieve world-wide smallpox eradication with special reference to resources that might be made available through voluntary contributions and bilateral programmes, as well as through programmes such as those of UNICEF and the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance; and
7. REQUESTS the Director-General to make available the increased amount of technical guidance and advisory services in order to accelerate the programme as well as to assist the countries in obtaining the necessary vaccine, transport and other equipment, and to report on the progress achieved to future sessions of the World Health Assembly.

Eleventh plenary meeting, 19 May 1965  
A18/VR/11