



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC  
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DU PACIFIQUE OCCIDENTAL

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

WPR/RC30/1-a  
29 August 1979

Thirtieth session  
Singapore  
2-8 October 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. FORMAL OPENING OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The retiring Chairman will open the session, which will start at 9.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 2 October 1979 and will be held at the Mandarin Court, Mandarin Hotel, Orchard Road, Singapore. As the formalities for the opening are arranged by the host government, further details will be provided to Representatives on their arrival in Singapore.

2. ADDRESS BY THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN

It is customary for the retiring Chairman to deliver a short address at the opening of each session of the Regional Committee.

3. ADDRESS BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Dr H.T. Mahler, Director-General, will attend this session of the Regional Committee.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND RAPPORTEURS

The officers of the 1976, 1977 and 1978 sessions were:

Twenty-seventh session - 1976

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|-------------------------|---|--|
| Chairman                | : | The Honourable J.S. Singh (Fiji)                   |
| Vice-Chairman           | : | Mr Robin E. Safitua (Papua New Guinea)             |
| Rapporteur (in English) | : | Dr C. Evans (Australia)                            |
| Rapporteur (in French)  | : | Dr Tran Ngoc Dang (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam) |

Twenty-eighth session - 1977

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|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Chairman                | : | Dr T. Saburi (Japan)            |
| Vice-Chairman           | : | Dr J. Sumpaico (Philippines)    |
| Rapporteur (in English) | : | Dr B.W. Christmas (New Zealand) |
| Rapporteur (in French)  | : | Dr M. Debray (France)           |

Twenty-ninth session - 1978

Chairman : Dr A.N. Acosta (Philippines)  
Vice-Chairman : Dr S. Foliaki (Tonga)  
Rapporteur (in English) : Dr A. Tarutia (Papua New Guinea)  
Rapporteur (in French) : Dr M. Charpin (France)

5. ADDRESS BY INCOMING CHAIRMAN

It is customary for the incoming Chairman to give a brief address to the Committee. It is, however, not essential for the address to be given at this point of the agenda. It may, should the incoming Chairman wish, be postponed to a time later in the session.

6. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Document WPR/RC30/1 Rev.1 and Add.1)

According to Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Regional Committee, "the Director may, in consultation with the Chairman, include any question suitable for the agenda which may arise or reach him up to twenty-one days before the opening day of the session, in a supplementary agenda which the Committee shall examine together with the provisional agenda. Any items arising or submitted later shall be included in a supplementary agenda provided that the Committee agrees."

7. PROGRAMME BUDGET (Documents WPR/RC30/2, WPR/RC30/3, WPR/RC30/4, WPR/RC30/5 and WPR/RC30/6)

7.1 Review of budget performance in 1978 (Document WPR/RC30/3)

The Committee will review the implementation of the 1978 regular budget technical cooperation with and services to governments, by major programme and programme.

7.2 Changes in the programme budget for 1980-81 (Document WPR/RC30/4)

Although the decision in principle that WHO should adopt a system of biennial programming was taken at the Twenty-second World Health Assembly in 1969,<sup>1</sup> full implementation of that decision had to await the necessary constitutional amendments. In 1973 the World Health Assembly adopted a resolution deciding that, pending those amendments, the proposed budget should cover two separate years.<sup>2</sup> The WHO programmes for 1976-77 and for 1978-79 were developed on a biennial basis but the budgets for those years were developed, presented and reviewed on an annual basis. The WHO programme

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution WHA22.53, WHO Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Volume I, 1973, page 197.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution WHA26.38, WHO Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Volume II (3rd edition), 1979, page 104.

budget for the financial period 1980-81 was therefore the first in which both the programme and the budget were developed, examined by the Regional Committee, considered by the Executive Board and approved by the World Health Assembly, on a fully integrated basis, in accordance with resolution WHA30.20.<sup>1</sup>

In accordance with resolutions of the World Health Assembly leading to the development of the present programme budgeting procedure,<sup>2</sup> including those mentioned above, the Executive Board will be required to consider, at its sixty-fifth session in January 1980, a brief report by the Director-General on "Changes in the Programme Budget for 1980-81" covering significant programme changes for the biennium as a whole. The Board will then submit the changes, together with any recommendations, to the Thirty-third World Health Assembly for brief review in May 1980 (an even-numbered year).<sup>3</sup> The Health Assembly will note those changes; formal Health Assembly approval will not be required.

In order to provide the Executive Board and the Health Assembly with material for their review and to be as equally involved in the brief review of programme changes as it is in the full review of the proposed programme budget, the Regional Committee will be requested to review and note a report on changes in the 1980-81 programme budget for the Western Pacific Region at its thirtieth session.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF BRIEF REPORTS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS ON THE PROGRESS OF THEIR HEALTH ACTIVITIES

Governments may either submit short written reports in advance of the session or present their annual reports to the Committee. Reports received in sufficient time will be reproduced in English and French and distributed to all Representatives. The Chairman will make an announcement to acknowledge their receipt.

9. REPORT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR (Document WPR/RC30/7)

In accordance with resolution WPR/RC27.R8,<sup>4</sup> the present report is the first of the biennial reports to be presented to the Committee in odd-numbered years. It covers the period 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1979.

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<sup>1</sup> WHO Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Volume II (3rd edition), 1979, page 104.

<sup>2</sup> Resolutions WHA28.69 and WHA30.23, WHO Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Volume II (3rd edition), 1979, pages 105 and 126.

<sup>3</sup> WHO Official Records, No. 240, 1977, Part I, Annex 3.

<sup>4</sup> Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, Volume II, 1978, pages 11-12.

10. RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE (resolution WPR/RC29.R20)  
(Document WPR/RC30/8)

At the twenty-ninth session the Regional Committee adopted resolution WPR/RC29.R20 which established a subcommittee to examine Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific. Members of the Sub-Committee are representatives of Australia, France, Samoa and Singapore. The Sub-Committee will meet on 1 October 1979 to prepare a report for consideration by the Committee.

11. SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES:  
JOINT COORDINATING BOARD (resolution WPR/RC29.R11) (Document WPR/RC30/9)

Document WPR/RC30/9 explains the background to the establishment of a Joint Coordinating Board to coordinate the interests and responsibilities of all parties cooperating in the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases. At the twenty-ninth session the Committee selected Malaysia and the Philippines as the two Member States of the Western Pacific Region whose representatives were to be members of the Joint Coordinating Board. The period of tenure of the Philippines expires on 31 December 1979.

The Regional Committee is requested either to select another Member State to appoint a representative as a member of the Joint Coordinating Board, or to reappoint the member designated by the Government of the Philippines.

12. SUB-COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES  
(resolution WPR/RC29.R19) (Document WPR/RC30/10)

The Committee, at the twenty-ninth session, decided that the Sub-Committee on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries should become a standing subcommittee of the Regional Committee. The Sub-Committee held its fourth meeting in Manila on 26 and 27 March 1979 and prepared a report for submission to the Committee.

12.1 Report of the Sub-Committee (Document WPR/RC30/10)

The report of the Sub-Committee will be discussed in plenary session on Wednesday, 3 October 1979.

12.2 Membership of the Sub-Committee

The Regional Committee at the twenty-eighth session decided that the members of the Sub-Committee on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries should be representatives of Japan, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea and Singapore. Although the same representatives were confirmed as members at the twenty-ninth session, it was decided to reconsider membership at the thirtieth session.

13. SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK (resolutions WPR/RC29.R8 and WPR/RC29.R18) (Document WPR/RC30/11 Part I)

Notwithstanding the fact that the primary function of the Sub-Committee on the General Programme of Work is to review and analyze the impact of WHO's collaboration with countries, the Regional Committee decided, at the twenty-ninth session, to expand the terms of reference of the Sub-Committee to include the study of WHO's structures in the light of its functions. The Sub-Committee held its fourth meeting in Manila on 28 and 29 March 1979, after which two separate groups of members made visits to countries. The Sub-Committee re-convened for its fifth meeting from 1 to 3 August 1979 during which it prepared a report for submission to the Committee.

13.1 Report of the Sub-Committee (Document WPR/RC30/11)

The report of the Sub-Committee was prepared in two parts. Part I presents to the Committee: (1) recommendations with regard to its terms of reference; (2) a record of its deliberations relating to its primary function, review of the impact of WHO's collaboration with countries, together with the reports of the two groups of members on their country visits; and (3) the results of its study on WHO's structures in the light of its functions. It will be discussed in plenary session on Wednesday, 3 October 1979.

Part II relates to the Sub-Committee's preliminary review of progress towards the development of national strategies and plans of action for health for all by the year 2000 and will be discussed under agenda item 14.

13.2 Membership of the Sub-Committee

The Committee decided, at the twenty-ninth session, that the membership of the Sub-Committee on the General Programme of Work would be enlarged to seven and that a balance should be struck by assigning four seats to developing and three to developed countries. Membership would consist in representatives of Australia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Tonga and Viet Nam until the thirtieth session, when the question of membership, including rotation, would be considered again.

14. STRATEGIES FOR HEALTH FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000: REVIEW OF PROGRESS TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OF ACTION (Documents WPR/RC30/11 Part II, WPR/RC30/11 Part II Add.1 and Add.2)

Document A32/8 (submitted to the Regional Committee under cover of document WPR/RC30/11 Part II Add.2) was circulated to Member States in March 1979, with a request that reports on national policies, strategies and plans of action for the achievement of an acceptable level of health for all by the year 2000 be submitted to the Regional Director, to enable the Regional Committee to carry out a first review of progress at the thirtieth session. A number of Member States submitted such reports. Since WHO's role in the formulation of strategies for health for all by the year 2000 was considered to bear some relation to the Sub-Committee

on the General Programme of Work's terms of reference in connexion with WHO's structures in the light of its functions, the Sub-Committee undertook to review the reports received from Member States, together with document A32/8, at its meeting from 1 to 3 August 1979. Document WPR/RC30/11 Part II presents to the Regional Committee, the Sub-Committee's comments and recommendations.

Document WPR/RC30/11 Part II Add.1 sets out four questions which Member States may wish to take into consideration in briefing their representatives at the Regional Committee to report verbally on national policies, strategies and plans of action, and to supplement the information already provided to the Regional Director.

15. CORRELATION BETWEEN THE WORK OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY AND THE REGIONAL COMMITTEES (Documents WPR/RC30/12 and WPR/RC30/13)

With a view to correlating more closely the work of the World Health Assembly, the Executive Board and the Regional Committee, efforts are being made to synchronize as far as possible the agenda of the three governing bodies and to encourage discussion at the Regional Committee on resolutions, significant for the Region, adopted by the World Health Assembly and the Executive Board.

15.1 Consideration of the agenda of the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Board (Document WPR/RC30/12)

Document WPR/RC30/12 presents to the Committee the main items of the provisional agenda of the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Board. A record of the discussions on those items also on the agenda of the present session of the Regional Committee, together with Representatives' comments on the other items, will be transmitted to the Director-General, to be taken into account in preparing the documentation for the Executive Board.

15.2 Consideration of resolutions of the Thirty-second World Health Assembly and the Executive Board at its sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions (Document WPR/RC30/13)

Document WPR/RC30/13 contains those resolutions of the Thirty-second World Health Assembly and the Executive Board at its sixty-third session thought to be of most significance for the Region.

16. CONTRIBUTION OF HEALTH TO THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (Document WPR/RC30/14)

The Executive Board of the World Health Organization at its sixty-second session decided that the subject for the Technical Discussions at the Thirty-third World Health Assembly, to be held in May 1980,

should be "The contribution of health to the New International Economic Order".<sup>1</sup>

Document WPR/RC30/14 contains a discussion paper prepared as a first step towards providing the background for the Technical Discussions. The discussion paper is divided into three parts, the last of which sets out some fundamental questions which it is hoped will stimulate comments from Representatives at the Regional Committee.

17. COUNTRY HEALTH PROGRAMMING (Document WPR/RC30/15)

Document WPR/RC30/15 is presented to the Regional Committee in pursuance of discussions at the twenty-ninth session.<sup>2</sup> It briefly describes the policy background to country health programming; past and present efforts, global and regional; procedures and methodology; the role of country health programming as an instrument for technical cooperation in health development; mechanisms to support country health programming in the Western Pacific Region; and plans for further development. Representatives are invited to review the document and give their views on the development of country health programming in the Region.

18. STUDY OF THE WHO FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME (Document WPR/RC30/16)

Document WPR/RC30/16 is presented to the Regional Committee in pursuance of resolution WPR/RC28.R16 and discussions at the twenty-ninth session.<sup>3</sup>

It briefly describes the outcome of the Conference on Regional Cooperation in the WHO Fellowship Programme which was held in Manila from 6 to 12 February 1979 and proposes a plan for implementation of the recommendations listed in the report of the Conference.

Representatives are invited to review the document and to decide whether the proposed plan of action should be endorsed.

19. DEVELOPMENT OF BIOMEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH (INCLUDING RESEARCH STRENGTHENING AND CAREER STRUCTURES IN TROPICAL COUNTRIES) (resolution WPR/RC29.R10) (Document WPR/RC30/17)

In accordance with resolution WPR/RC29.R10, document WPR/RC30/17:  
(1) reports on the use of voluntary funds which became available for implementation of recommendations of the Western Pacific Advisory Committee on Medical Research (WPACMR) endorsed by the Regional Committee;

<sup>1</sup> See Decision EB62(9), WHO Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Volume II (3rd edition), 1979, page 131.

<sup>2</sup> Report of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, twenty-ninth session: summary record of the second meeting, 1978, page 137.

<sup>3</sup> Report of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, twenty-ninth session, 1978, page 3.

(2) sets out, for review and endorsement by the Regional Committee, a summary of the recommendations made by the WPACMR at its fourth session in April 1979; (3) synthesizes the impact of the regional research programme; and (4) brings to the attention of the Regional Committee, at the request of the Director-General, the question of career structures for the strengthening of research capabilities in tropical countries.

20. REVIEW OF THE CANCER SITUATION IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGION  
(Document WPR/RC30/18)

At the twenty-ninth session the Regional Committee requested the Regional Director to include a review of the cancer situation in the Region on the agenda of the thirtieth session.<sup>1</sup>

Document WPR/RC30/18 contains such a review, referring particularly to the availability and reliability of cancer statistics, the magnitude of the cancer problem and programmes in the Region for the control of cancer.

21. IMMUNIZATION SERVICES AND THEIR EVALUATION (Document WPR/RC30/19)

At the twenty-ninth session the Regional Committee requested the Regional Director to include an item on the agenda of the thirtieth session entitled "Immunization services and their evaluation".<sup>2</sup>

Document WPR/RC30/19 describes the need for continuous evaluation of national immunization services if the target for the expanded programme on immunization is to be reached. Information generated by evaluation activities at national level will allow the monitoring of the regional programme, leading to closer collaboration with Member States. Representatives are invited to comment on section 4 of the document, "Suggestions for the future".

22. STATUS OF THE ANTIMALARIA PROGRAMME (resolution WPR/RC29.R13)  
(Document WPR/RC30/20)

As requested in resolution WPR/RC29.R13, document WPR/RC30/20 reports on the status of the antimalaria programme in the Western Pacific Region.

23. DIARRHOEAL DISEASES CONTROL, INCLUDING CHOLERA (resolution WPR/RC29.R15)  
(Document WPR/RC30/21)

Resolution WPR/RC29.R15, adopted by the Regional Committee at the twenty-ninth session, requested the Regional Director to keep the Committee informed of the progress made in the implementation of the regional

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<sup>1</sup>Report of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, twenty-ninth session: summary record of the fourth meeting, 1978, page 164.

<sup>2</sup>Report of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, twenty-ninth session, 1978, page 18.



programme on diarrhoeal diseases control. Document WPR/RC30/21 reports on the present situation with regard to programme development.

24. RADIATION MEDICINE IN PUBLIC HEALTH (Document WPR/RC30/22)

Document WPR/RC30/22 presents to the Regional Committee the situation with regard to radiation medicine in the Western Pacific Region and outlines proposals for improvement.

Representatives are invited to review the document and to comment particularly on the proposals for implementation of a plan for increased coverage and for improved utilization of radiation medicine services.

25. HOST AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (resolution WPR/RC29.R9)

As requested in resolution WPR/RC29.R9, document WPR/RC30/23 presents a report on the progress made in the discussions between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the World Health Organization on reinterpretation of Section 22(g), Article VIII of the Host Agreement.

26. STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH WHO

Representatives of the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies, and intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations in official relations with WHO, wishing to do so, will be invited to make statements of no longer than ten minutes' duration, on the morning of Monday, 8 October 1979.

27. SELECTION OF TOPIC FOR THE TECHNICAL PRESENTATION DURING THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE (Document WPR/RC30/24)

A resolution adopted by the Regional Committee at the twenty-fifth session decided that the Technical Discussions held up to 1974 be replaced by a Technical Presentation dealing with a special subject or health problem to be given by one or two recognized experts in the chosen topic.<sup>1</sup>

Document WPR/RC30/24 contains topics suggested by the Secretariat for the Presentation to be made during the thirty-first session of the Regional Committee in 1980.

28. TIME AND PLACE OF THE THIRTY-FIRST AND THIRTY-SECOND SESSIONS OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The Regional Committee at its twenty-fourth session decided that sessions of the Regional Committee could be held outside regional

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<sup>1</sup>See resolution WPR/RC25.R12, Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, Volume I, 1976, page 204.

headquarters if an invitation were to be extended by a Member State, it being understood that this would not happen in two consecutive years and that all other sessions would be held at the regional headquarters.<sup>1</sup>

Accordingly the Committee may wish to confirm that the thirty-first session be held in Manila. A tentative invitation has been issued by the Government of the Republic of Korea to hold the thirty-second session in Seoul.

#### 29. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

A summary of the discussions and the resolutions adopted will be incorporated into a final report for discussion and adoption at the last plenary session.

#### 30. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

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<sup>1</sup>See resolution WPR/RC24.R10, Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, Volume I, 1976, page 183.