

PART I

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were adopted by the Regional Committee (the references to the "Handbook" are to the *Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia*, seventeenth edition, 1948-1975, and supplement):

SEA/RC31/R1 EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the recommendations made during the technical discussions on the Expanded Programme on Immunization in South-East Asia;

Noting that immunization programmes in Member countries face many difficulties in planning, implementation and evaluation,

Recognizing the importance and urgency of the implementation of immunization programmes to reduce the morbidity and mortality now being caused by those diseases of childhood which are preventable by vaccination,

Recalling the observations and recommendations of the Thirty-first World Health Assembly in its resolution WHA31.53,

Further recalling the conclusions and recommendations of the Consultative Meeting on Planning Regional Self-Sufficiency in Vaccine Production for the Expanded Programme on Immunization, held in New Delhi in April 1978,

1. URGES Member States to:

- (a) give full support to the long-term and medium-term objectives of the Expanded Programme on Immunization in South-East Asia;
- (b) develop comprehensive plans of operation through which these objectives can be achieved, making due provision for the training of staff, at all levels, for the development of the necessary information systems and for periodic independent evaluation of the programme's success in meeting its stated objectives;
- (c) implement the programme so as to achieve continuing immunization coverage of susceptible infants and pregnant mothers by 1990, emphasizing the use of maternal and child health and primary health care programmes to deliver these services wherever possible, and
- (d) give full support to the recommendations of the Consultative Meeting on Planning Regional Self-Sufficiency in Vaccine Production for the Expanded Programme on Immunization, held in New Delhi in April 1978;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to continue to provide vigorous leadership and strong support to the Expanded Programme on Immunization in the South-East Asia Region, with particular emphasis on:

- (a) training of staff at all levels;
- (b) providing Member States, on request, and in coordination with other donors such as UNICEF and UNDP, all feasible technical support to implement the programme;
- (c) collaboration in evaluation of programmes and in research, and
- (d) the promotion of technical cooperation among Member States.

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Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R2

PROPOSED REGIONAL PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR
1980 AND 1981

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for 1980-1981 (document SEA/RC31/3) and the report of the Sub-Committee on Programme Budget (document SEA/RC31/23),

Appreciating that WHO's programme will provide maximum possible support to the health development efforts of Member countries during 1980-1981 and will help build a base for further activities during the next biennium,

1. APPROVES the report of the Sub-Committee on Programme Budget;
2. NOTES the regional proposed programme budget for 1980 and 1981;
3. REQUESTS the Regional Director to transmit the proposals to the Director-General for inclusion in his proposed programme budget estimates for 1980-1981, and
4. URGES the governments of the countries in the Region to give due importance to health in the allocation of funds from other sources of assistance.

Handbook, 3.3
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Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R3

THIRTIETH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL
DIRECTOR

The Regional Committee,

Having considered and discussed the Thirtieth Annual Report of the Regional Director, which covers the activities of WHO in the South-East Asia Region during the period from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1978 (document SEA/RC31/2, Add.1 and Corr.1),

1. NOTES with satisfaction the progress made during the year in WHO collaborative activities in the Region;
2. CONGRATULATES the Regional Director and his staff on this comprehensive review of the work done and sound projections made for the future, and
3. REQUESTS the Regional Director to continue with the present form of annual reporting, these reports being an important base of information for Member States.

Handbook, 2.3
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Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R4

DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION OF BIOMEDICAL
AND HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the Thirty-first World Health Assembly's resolution on this subject (WHA31.35),

Reaffirming its earlier resolutions (SEA/RC29/R1 and SEA/RC30/R5),

Noting with satisfaction the increased allocation for research in the Regional Budget, and the steps taken by the Regional Director to attract extra-budgetary sources,

Appreciating the encouraging progress made in the research promotion and development programme in the South-East Asia Region,

1. URGES Member States:
 - (a) to take action to develop national medium and long-term programmes for research promotion and development, and
 - (b) to make the best use of WHO's catalytic, collaborative and coordinating function of promoting national research and collaborative studies;
2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to provide such technical collaboration as necessary to Member States in their research promotion and development efforts, and

- (b) to develop, on the basis of the national research programmes, a regional programme for research and development which, together with the programmes of other Regions, can form the basis of a global research programme.

Handbook 1.6
Page 29

Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
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SEA/RC31/R5

CONTROL AND TREATMENT OF INTESTINAL PARASITIC
INFECTIONS

The Regional Committee,

Having discussed the paper on the subject presented by the Government of India,

Considering that intestinal parasitic infections are still a cause of high morbidity, particularly in children in the countries of the Region, and

Realizing the contribution of these diseases to malnutrition, and the consequent reduction of growth in children and the economic impact on society caused by the related morbidity and mortality,

1. URGES Member countries:

- (a) to initiate and implement control programmes for these diseases which will encompass:
 - i) the development of a field programme for diagnosis and treatment of cases;
 - ii) the improvement of environmental sanitation, including the provision of safe drinking water and the proper disposal of night soil in rural areas, and
 - iii) the development of an adequate health education programme with emphasis on the prevention of infection and re-infection;
- (b) to develop suitable epidemiological surveillance mechanisms;
- (c) to undertake research into:
 - i) the immunology and epidemiology of these diseases, particularly for working out endemicity indices, in areas where this has not already been done;
 - ii) the development of cheaper and more effective drugs and
 - iii) the development of laboratory tools for epidemiological purposes, and

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to assist Member countries in developing the above activities.

Handbook 1.3.1
Page 3

Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R6 VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE CONTROL

The Regional Committee,

Having discussed the paper on the subject presented by the Government of Indonesia,

Recognizing the importance of vector-borne diseases,

1. URGES Member States to include in national health research programmes, field studies on the ecology, bionomics and control of the important vectors and disease reservoirs, and especially to develop appropriate technology for vector control suitable for use in the context of primary health care, and

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to provide the necessary support to such national activities, including training of medical entomologists.

Handbook, 1.3.1
Page 3

Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R7 TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (TCDC)

The Regional Committee,

Having discussed the paper on the subject presented by the Government of India,

Noting with satisfaction the increasing cooperation among Member countries of the Region,

Having reviewed the available technical expertise, facilities for the training of medical and health personnel, and other resources in some of the countries of the Region,

Recalling the World Health Assembly, Executive Board and Regional Committee resolutions on the subject (WHA30.43, WHA31.41, EB57.R50, EB59.R39, EB60.R4 and SEA/RC30/R10), and

Recognizing that a number of Member States can benefit from technical cooperation among the countries in the Region by availing of the existing expertise, training facilities and other resources in the Member States,

1. URGES Member States to collaborate among themselves for the development of their national health services;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
- (a) to continue to promote and coordinate such cooperation among Member States;
 - (b) to collaborate with the Member States in the establishment and promotion of specific mechanisms for TCDC, and
 - (c) to report on progress to the Regional Committee at its thirty-third Session.

Handbook, 1.8
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Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R8 COOPERATION WITH NON-HEALTH SECTORS IN NATIONAL
HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

The Regional Committee,

Having discussed the paper on the subject presented by the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic,

Bearing in mind the principles of WHO's Constitution and the WHO General Programme of Work which include a broad-based multisectoral approach,

Recognizing the important and mutually supportive role of health and other sectors in improving the health of the people,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions (WHA17.20, WHA20.53, WHA23.61 and WHA29.74),

Considering the Regional Committee resolution SEA/RC30/R12, particularly its recognition of the spirit of integration of health care and rural development,

Noting with satisfaction that health planning is being undertaken as an integral part of general national development planning in Member States,

1. URGES Member States to plan and implement their development programmes in collaboration between health and non-health sectors, and
2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to continue to promote multi-sectoral approaches aiming at the achievement of mutual benefits by the health and other sectors and provide technical support to Member countries in this respect; and also further the multi-sectoral approach through coordination with the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other multilateral and bilateral agencies.

Handbook, 1.4.1
Page 15

Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R9

CHARTER FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the report of the meeting in New Delhi on the Charter for Health Development, and the revised draft of the Charter presented by the Regional Director (document SEA/RC31/6),

Affirming that this Charter is a declaration of principles and an expression of the need of the Member States of the South-East Asia Region to mobilize adequate internal and external resources and to make optimum use of available resources for dealing with health problems of high priority, common to the countries of the Region and for promoting inter-country consultation and collaboration within the framework of national, regional and global development policies,

Appreciating the valuable contribution to the formulation of the draft made by the working group consisting of representatives of Member States,

1. APPROVES the Charter for Health Development;
2. URGES Member States:
 - (a) to adopt the Charter, and
 - (b) to make every effort to apply the principles contained in the Charter, relevant to their health programmes;
3. REQUESTS the Regional Director to take appropriate action to obtain signatures on the Charter from Member States at the highest decision making level, and to collaborate with Member States to ensure its speedy implementation.

Handbook, 1.4.1
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Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R10

TIME AND PLACE OF THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

The Regional Committee

DECIDES to hold its thirty-second session in the Regional Office in New Delhi in September 1979, the exact dates to be fixed in consultation with the Chairman.

Handbook, 4.2.2
Page 50

Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R11

SELECTION OF TOPIC FOR THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS IN 1979

The Regional Committee

1. DECIDES to hold technical discussions during the thirty-second

session in 1979 on the subject "Drug policy, including traditional medicines, in the context of primary health care";

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to take appropriate steps to arrange for these discussions and to place this item on the agenda of the thirty-second session, and

3. URGES governments of the Region to include adequate technical representation in their delegations to the thirty-second session.

Handbook, 4.3
Page 53

Sixth Meeting, 25 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.6

SEA/RC31/R12

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

The Regional Committee

1. WISHES to convey its thanks and deep gratitude to the people and the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic, and particularly to the Ministry of Public Health, for the warm welcome and the generous hospitality extended to all participants, and the members of the WHO secretariat, as well as for the excellent arrangements made for the session, and

2. EXPRESSES its sincere thanks to the Regional Director, Dr V.T.H. Gunaratne, and to all members of his staff for their significant and painstaking contribution to the success of the session.

Handbook, 4.4
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Seventh Meeting, 28 August 1978
SEA/RC31/Min.7