

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

WESTERN PACIFIC
REGIONAL OFFICE

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

RC2/WP/Min/4 Rev. 1

Second Session

Manila

18th to 21st September 1951

24th September 1951

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING

Manila Hotel, Manila

Wednesday, 19th September 1951 at 2 p.m.

CHAIRMAN: DR. PADUA (Philippines)

Contents

1. Discussion of WP/RC2/5

Part II (Continued)

Note: Corrections to these provisional minutes should be submitted in writing to Mr. J. Andersen, Conference Officer, within 48 hours of their distribution.

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

The CHAIRMAN read the revised draft of the resolution discussed at the morning session concerning UNICEF aid to the Indo-China countries.

The resolution, as follows, was adopted:

THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

HAVING CONSIDERED the urgent needs of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam for assistance in health programmes
REQUESTS the Regional Director to consult with the UNICEF Asia Regional Office with a view to joint consideration of the nature and extent of aid that can be given in combined medical programmes to Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, giving due weight to the current social and economic conditions as well as the state of medical need prevailing in the three countries.

Dr. FILIPPI, France, expressed the hope that the aid would be quickly forthcoming.

The Committee then proceeded to discussion of the proposals for VLMN in Document No. 5, and Dr. DAN Vietnam, said he agreed to most of it but still had some amendments to make, which had now been discussed with the Regional Director.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR asked permission of the Chair to clarify the amendments, as now agreed. They were: Public Health Administration to remain as drafted. Hospital planning to remain as drafted for 1952, but to be continued into 1953. Maternal and Child Health to be amended by deleting the obstetrician, the paediatrician, the senior nurse educator and the paediatric nurse. Malaria Project to remain as drafted. Tuberculosis to remain but with the addition of fellowship.

ECC to be deleted.

The Vietnam delegate expressed satisfaction concerning these points, but said he would like to have the problem of anti-malaria control discussed again by WHO and the Vietnam Government, and hoped that the ECC project would be postponed rather than omitted.

The programme for Vietnam was then adopted as modified.

The section on Countries Undesignated then came before the Committee for consideration. The Netherlands delegate repeated that he had already made known his wishes in respect of fellowships for Dutch New Guinea at the previous day's session and had nothing to add.

The Chairman suggested that some of the observers might wish to speak at this point.

Dr. M.V. Arguollos, observer for the World Federation for Mental Health, regretted that so little provision had been made for the improvement of mental health in the programme and stressed the importance of mental health in achieving the aims of the Organization. He pleaded for more funds to be allocated for this purpose.

Dr. OROSA, Philippines, supported Dr. Arguollos' plea and asked for funds to continue the Bulletin of the Philippine Mental Health Association.

A long discussion ensued.

The Regional Director said there was not the least doubt about the importance of mental health, which was emphasised in the Constitution of WHO. If any member state wished to put in a request for assistance in this field it would be considered, but few requests of this nature had so far been received, though mention would be seen in the programme of those which had. It would be seen that a Seminar on Mental Health was included in the programme, and it was proposed that this should be held in Australia in 1963.

The Australian representative, Mr. Booker, said he had been instructed to inform the Committee that Sydney University would be pleased to see a seminar held there in 1953. He understood it was to be on child health, but now he gathered from the Reg. Director's remarks that it would be on the mental health of children. He requested that if this seminar was approved by the Committee, subsequent details should be worked out between his Legation in Manila and the R.D.

Dr. YAMAGUCHI, Japan, pointed out that his country now had a National Institute of Mental Health. He felt that the R.D. had realised the importance of this subject, as was shown by the inclusion a project for assistance to this Institute, and Japan would be very glad to co-operate in every way possible.

Dr. KOO, of Korea, proposed the adoption of Part II the programme in entirety forthwith without further discussion, as there was still plenty on the agenda and progress was not rapid enough.

Dr. YEN, China, invited the Committee to hold the proposed nursing seminar in Taipeh if the proposals were adopted. He also wished to express regret that leprosy had not been included in the programme.

had been surprised that in this Region no requests
The Regional Director agreed that he too/had been received
for assistance in dealing with leprosy, but stressed that the Regional Office could not put in proposals except on the basis of a request from the Government.

Miss SOTEJO, observer for the International Nurses' Association, rose to invite the Committee to hold the proposed nursing seminar in Manila.

The Chairman said such an invitation would need to come from a member, and Dr. BERTOL asked for time to consult with Miss Sotejo. After consultation, the Philippines delegate said that though Manila would have been very happy to invite the Committee to hold the seminar here, they felt that Taipeh would perhaps be a better place to have it, and he would therefore like to propose Taipeh as the venue.

The delegate from Vietnam seconded this, and Dr. YEN thanked the Philippines for their gesture.

Dr. YEO, United Kingdom, asked that Fiji be borne in mind when allocating the fellowships shown under "Countries Undesignated," and the Regional Director said that if requests were received from Fiji they would be given consideration.

Part II was approved in its entirety, with modifications for Laos and Vietnam as agreed.

The Chairman said he had just received a cable from Dr. M. F. Watry, secretary-general of the International Dental Federation, Brussels, Belgium, designating two official observers for the International Dental Federation (Federation Dentaire Internationale) - Dr. Pedro A. BANEZ and Dr. Germanico A. CARREON, president and secretary-general respectively of the Philippine Dental Association, an affiliate organization of the F.D.I.

The minutes of the previous day's sessions were distributed in English and French and certain amendments were proposed and noted. The minutes were approved as corrected.

The Chairman then drew the attention of the Committee to the draft resolution suggested by the Philippine delegation on the question of assistance to member states in the Region, which had just been circulated. This put in writing the suggestion discussed on the previous day, that more assistance in the form of supplies and equipment should be given by the Organization to its members. The resolution was adopted.

The meeting rose at 4:30 p.m.