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Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases

TDR Basic Documents



TDR



UNDP/WORLD BANK/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR)

**UNDP/WORLD BANK/WHO SPECIAL
PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING
IN TROPICAL DISEASES**

TDR BASIC DOCUMENTS

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UNDP/WORLD BANK/WHO SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR
RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE
ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL STRUCTURES OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAMME
FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES
(1978; amended 1988)

This Memorandum of Understanding describes the functions, composition and operation of the Joint Coordinating Board, the Standing Committee and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (hereinafter called the Special Programme). The Special Programme is structured on the basis of co-sponsorship by the United Nations Development Programme (hereinafter called UNDP), and the World Bank (hereinafter called the Bank) and the World Health Organization (hereinafter called WHO), and operates within a broad framework of intergovernmental/interagency cooperation and participation.

The governments and organizations which met in Geneva on 1 and 2 February 1978 and whose names are listed in Annex 1 hereto, have endorsed the Administrative and Technical Structures of the Special Programme as set forth below.

A summary of the scientific and technical basis of the Special Programme is attached as Annex 2 hereto.

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 The Special Programme is a global programme of international technical cooperation initiated by WHO and co-sponsored by UNDP and the Bank, with the two interdependent objectives of developing improved tools for the control of tropical diseases and strengthening the research capability of affected countries themselves.

1.2 Cooperating Parties are:

1.2.1 those governments contributing to Special Programme Resources; those governments providing technical and/or scientific support to the Special Programme; and those governments whose countries are directly affected by the diseases dealt with by the Special Programme;

1.2.2 those intergovernmental and other non-profit making organizations contributing to Special Programme Resources or providing technical and/or scientific support to the Special Programme.

1.3 The Executing Agency is WHO.

1.4 Special Programme Resources are the financial resources made available to the Special Programme by governments and organizations, through the Tropical Diseases Research Fund, an international fund administered by the Bank, the WHO Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion and other agency funds.

2. THE JOINT COORDINATING BOARD (JCB)

2.1 Functions

The JCB shall, for the purpose of coordinating the interests and responsibilities of the parties cooperating in the Special Programme, have the following functions:

2.1.1 Review and decide upon the planning and execution of the Special Programme. For this purpose it will keep itself informed of all aspects

of the development of the Special Programme, and consider reports and recommendations submitted to it by the Standing Committee, the Executing Agency, and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC).

- 2.1.2 Approve the proposed plan of action and budget for the coming financial period, prepared by the Executing Agency and reviewed by the Standing Committee.
- 2.1.3 Review the proposals of the Standing Committee and approve arrangements for the financing of the Special Programme in that period.
- 2.1.4 Review proposed longer-term plans of action and their financial implications.
- 2.1.5 Review the annual financial statements submitted by the Executing Agency, as well as the audit report thereon, submitted by the External Auditor of the Executing Agency.
- 2.1.6 Review periodic reports which evaluate the progress of the Special Programme towards the achievement of its objectives.
- 2.1.7 Endorse the proposals of the Executing Agency and the Standing Committee for STAC membership.
- 2.1.8 Consider such other matters relating to the Special Programme as may be referred to it by any Cooperating Party.

2.2. Composition

The JCB shall consist of 30 members from among the Cooperating Parties as follows:

- 2.2.1 Twelve government representatives selected by the contributors to the Special Programme Resources.
- 2.2.2 Twelve government representatives selected by the WHO Regional Committees from among those countries directly affected by the diseases dealt with by the Special Programme, or from among those providing technical or scientific support to the Special Programme.
- 2.2.3 Three members, designated by the JCB itself, from among the remaining Cooperating Parties.
- 2.2.4 The three Agencies which comprise the Standing Committee.

Members of the JCB shall serve for a period of three years and may be reappointed.

Other Cooperating Parties may, at their request, be represented as observers upon approval by the JCB.

2.3 Operation

- 2.3.1 The JCB shall meet in annual session, and in extraordinary session if required, and with the agreement of the majority of its members.
- 2.3.2¹ The JCB shall elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman from among the representatives of its members:

1 Amended by the Co-sponsoring Agencies in agreement with the Joint Coordinating Board; with effect from the Twelfth Session of the Board in 1989. [See the report of JCB(11), document TDR/JCB(11)/88.3].

- the Chairman shall be elected every two years;
- the Vice-Chairman shall be elected each year;
- both officers shall serve until their successors are elected.

If the Cooperating Party which the Chairman represents is no longer a member of the JCB or if the Chairman is no longer a representative of that JCB member, this chairmanship shall come to an end prior to the normal date of expiry. In the case of a vacancy in the chairmanship, the Vice-Chairman shall act as Chairman until the new Chairman is elected at the next session of the Board.

The Chairman and, in the latter's absence, the Vice-Chairman, shall preside over sessions of the JCB. Between sessions, they shall have such additional duties as may be assigned to them by the JCB.

- 2.3.3 The Executing Agency shall provide the Secretariat and arrange for supporting services and facilities as may be required by the JCB.
- 2.3.4 Subject to such other special arrangements as may be decided upon by the JCB, members of the JCB shall make their own arrangements to cover the expenses incurred in attending sessions of the JCB. Observers shall attend sessions of the JCB at their own expense. Other expenses of the JCB shall be borne by the Special Programme Resources.

3. THE STANDING COMMITTEE

3.1 Composition and Functions

The Standing Committee shall be comprised of the co-sponsors, namely the UNDP, the Bank and WHO. It shall have the following functions:

- 3.1.1 Review the plan of action and budget for the coming financial period, as prepared by the Executing Agency, in time for presentation to the JCB not less than forty-five days before the JCB's annual session.
- 3.1.2 Make proposals to the JCB for the financing of the Special Programme for the coming financial period.
- 3.1.3 Approve re-allocation of resources between Programme areas and Scientific Working Groups of the Special Programme during a financial period, upon the recommendation of STAC and the Executing Agency, and report such re-allocations to the JCB.
- 3.1.4 Examine the reports submitted to the Executing Agency by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and the Executing Agency's comments; make the necessary observations thereon, and transmit these, with comments as appropriate, to the JCB.
- 3.1.5 Review particular aspects of the Special Programme, including those which may be referred to it by the JCB, and present findings and recommendations in the form of reports to the JCB.
- 3.1.6 Inform the JCB, as required, regarding Special Programme matters of interest to the JCB.

3.2 Operation

- 3.2.1 The Standing Committee shall usually meet at least twice a year; once at the time of the JCB session, and additionally between sessions of the JCB.

- 3.2.2 The Executing Agency shall arrange for supporting services and facilities as may be required by the Standing Committee.
- 3.2.3 Members of the Standing Committee shall make their own arrangements to cover the expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Standing Committee.

4. THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC)

4.1 Functions

The STAC shall have the following functions:

- 4.1.1 Review, from a scientific and technical standpoint, the content, scope and dimensions of the Special Programme, including the diseases covered and approaches to be adopted.
- 4.1.2 Recommend priorities within the Special Programme, including the establishment and disestablishment of Scientific Working Groups, and all scientific and technical activities related to the Programme.
- 4.1.3 Provide the JCB and the Executing Agency with a continuous independent evaluation of the scientific and technical aspects of all activities of the Special Programme.

For these purposes the STAC may propose and present for consideration such technical documents and recommendations as it may deem appropriate.

4.2 Composition

The STAC shall be comprised of 15-18 scientists and other technical personnel who will serve in their personal capacities to represent the broad range of biomedical and other disciplines required for Special Programme activities. Members of STAC, including the Chairman, will be selected on the basis of scientific or technical competence by the Executing Agency, in consultation with the Standing Committee and with the endorsement of the JCB.

- 4.2.1 Members of the STAC, including the Chairman, shall be appointed to serve for a period of three years, and will be eligible for further reappointment. To maintain continuity of membership, the expiration of the initial terms of office of members of STAC will be staggered.

4.3 Operation

- 4.3.1 The STAC shall meet at least once each year.
- 4.3.2 The Executing Agency shall provide the Secretariat to STAC including sustained scientific, technical and administrative support.
- 4.3.3 Costs of the STAC shall be borne by the Special Programme Resources.
- 4.3.4 The STAC shall prepare an annual report on the basis of a full review of all technical and scientific aspects of the Special Programme. This report, containing its findings and recommendations, shall be submitted to the Executing Agency and to the Standing Committee. The Executing Agency shall submit its comments on the report to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee shall then transmit the report, including the comments of the Executing Agency, together with its own observations and recommendations, to the JCB, not less than forty-five days before the JCB's annual session. The Chairman of the STAC, or in his absence a

member of the STAC deputized to act for him, shall attend all sessions of the JCB.

5. THE EXECUTING AGENCY

The Director-General of WHO, after such consultations as he may deem appropriate, shall appoint the Special Programme Coordinator and the Special Programme Director and appoint or assign all other personnel to the Special Programme as specified in the plans of work. Drawing as required upon the administrative resources of WHO and in cooperation with the co-sponsors of the Special Programme, the Coordinator will be responsible for the overall management of the Special Programme. Under the authority of the Special Programme Coordinator and drawing to the full upon the scientific and technical resources of WHO, the Director of the Special Programme shall be responsible for the overall scientific and technical development and operation of the Special Programme including the plan of action and budget.

6. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION

The Cooperating Parties attending the preliminary meeting of the Special Programme together with the Co-sponsoring Agencies have, as an interim measure, carried out the functions of the JCB pending its definitive establishment pursuant to paragraph 2.2 hereof.

2 February 1978

UNDP/WORLD BANK/WHO SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR
RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES

MEETING OF COOPERATING PARTIES

Geneva, 1-2 February 1978

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ARGENTINA

Dr Olindo MARTINO, Adviser in Epidemiology and Pathology, Secretariat of State Public Health Area Office, Buenos Aires

AUSTRALIA

Dr R. CUMMING, Assistant Director-General, International Health Branch, Department of Health, Canberra

Ms Helen FREEMAN, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations Office at Geneva

AUSTRIA

Dr Othmar LAURENCIC, Director, Epidemiological Department, Federal Ministry of Health and Environmental Protection, Vienna

BELGIUM

Madame S. VERVALCKE, Directeur d'Administration, Administration de la Coopération au Développement, Bruxelles

BENIN

Capitaine I. BOURAIMA, Ministre de la Santé publique et des Affaires sociales, Cotonou

Professeur B.-C. SADELER, Département des Etudes scientifiques et techniques, Section de Médecine, Université nationale du Bénin, Cotonou

BRAZIL

Dr Paulo DE ALMEIDA MACHADO, Minister of State for Health, Ministry of Health, Brasília

BURMA

Dr AUNG THAN BATU, Director-General, Medical Research, Ministry of Health, Rangoon

CANADA

Dr P. LADOUCEUR, Section Head, UN Programmes Division, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Ottawa

Dr W.G.B. CASSELMAN, Senior Medical Adviser, International Health Services, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa

CANADA (continued)

Dr W.T. OLIVER, Research Coordinator, Laboratory Centre for Disease Control, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa

Mr C. SIROIS, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations Office and International Organizations at Geneva

DENMARK

Dr Inge JESPERSEN, Deputy Commissioner of Health, Member of DANIDA's Board, Copenhagen

Mr Niels J. LASSEN, Deputy Head of Division, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Copenhagen

EGYPT

Dr Elmotaz Billah MOBARAK, Under Secretary of Health, Ministry of Public Health, Cairo

FINLAND

Miss Anna-Liisa KORHONEN, Secretary of Section, Department for International Development Cooperation, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Helsinki

Mrs Helena ROOS, Secretary (Social Affairs), Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

FRANCE

Dr R. GAVARINO, Médecin en Chef des Services du Ministère de la Coopération, Division de la Santé et de l'Action sociale, Paris

Professeur P. PENE, Directeur de l'Unité d'Enseignement et de Recherche de Médecine et de Santé tropicales, Clinique exotique à l'Hôpital Michel Lévy, Marseille

M. André NEMO, Conseiller, Mission permanente de la France auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève et des Institutions spécialisées ayant leur Siège en Suisse

GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF

Mr G.R. LIPTAU, Counsellor, Ministry for Economic Cooperation, Bonn

Dr W.D. ERNERT, Ministerial Counsellor, Ministry for Economic Cooperation, Bonn

Dr W. SCHUMACHER, Ministerial Counsellor, Federal Ministry for Youth, Family Affairs and Health, Bonn

Mr G. WIRTH, Counsellor (Financial Affairs), Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

INDIA

Dr C. GOPALAN, Director-General, Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi

KENYA

Dr J.M. GEKONYO, Senior Deputy Director of Medical Services, Ministry of Health, Nairobi

KUWAIT

Dr Nouri ALKAZEMI, Director, Planning and Public Health Department, Ministry of Public Health, Kuwait

MALAYSIA

Dr G.F. DE WITT, Director, Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur

MEXICO

Dr Augusto Fujigaki LECHUGA, General Director of Epidemiology and Research on Public Health, Ministry of Public Health, Mexico

MOZAMBIQUE

Dr J. CABRAL, National Deputy Director for Preventive Medicine, Ministry of Health, Maputo

NETHERLANDS

Professor O.J.M. KRANENDONK, Director, Department of Tropical Hygiene, Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam

Mr F.P.R. VAN NOUHUYS, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the United Nations Office and International Organizations at Geneva

NIGERIA

Dr O.J. EKANEM, Consultant Malariologist, Federal Ministry of Health, Lagos

NORWAY

Dr T. GODAL, Radiumhospitalet, Oslo

Mr H. HØSTMARK, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations Office and to other International Organizations at Geneva

PHILIPPINES

Dr Paulo CAMPOS, Chairman, Division of Medicine, National Research Council of the Philippines, Manila

SUDAN

Dr Es Sayed Daoud Hassan DAOUD, Director-General, Laboratories and Medical Research, Khartoum

SWEDEN

Mr Erik CORNELL, Minister, Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

Mr Bo STENSON, Head of Section, Population and Health Division, Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), Stockholm

Professor Göran STERKY, Swedish Agency for Research Cooperation (SAREC), Stockholm

SWITZERLAND

Dr C. FLEURY, Service fédéral de l'Hygiène publique, Berne

M. M. JEANRENAUD, Mission permanente de la Suisse près les Organisations internationales à Genève

SWITZERLAND (continued)

Dr J. STREULI, Direction de la Coopération au Développement et de l'Aide humanitaire,
Berne

Dr A. DEGREMONT, Institut tropical, Bâle

THAILAND

Professor Yongyoot SUJJAVANICH, Minister of Public Health, Ministry of Public Health,
Bangkok

TURKEY

Dr Necati DEDEOGLU, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, Ankara

USSR

Dr D.A. ORLOV, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

UNITED KINGDOM

Dr J.L. KILGOUR, Chief Medical Adviser, Ministry of Overseas Development, London

Miss J.M. DIMOND, Principal, Science, Technology and Medical Department, Ministry of
Overseas Development, London

Dr Sheila M. HOWARTH, Principal Medical Officer, Medical Research Council, London

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ms Marjorie S. BELCHER, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Development Support, Agency
for International Development, Washington

Mr James F. THOMSON, Office of Health, Development Support Bureau, Agency for
International Development, Washington

Mr G.J. KLEIN, Attaché, United States Mission to the United Nations Office and other
International Organizations at Geneva

Mr James E. HILL, Attaché for Development Assistance, United States Mission to the United
Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

Dr Robert FORTUINE, International Health Attaché, United States Mission to the United
Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

ZAMBIA

Dr S.H. SIWALE, Assistant Director of Medical Services, Planning and Development,
Ministry of Health, Lusaka

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

Dr J. GILL, Director, Health Sciences Division, International Development Research
Centre, Ottawa

JAPAN SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY FOUNDATION

Professor K. KIIKUNI, Managing Director, Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation, Tokyo

THE WELLCOME TRUST

Dr P.O. WILLIAMS, Director, The Wellcome Trust, London

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Mr William T. MASHLER, Senior Director, Division for Global and Interregional Projects,
UNDP, New York

Mr W.A.C. MATHIESON, Special Consultant to UNDP, London

WORLD BANK

Dr James A. LEE, Director, Office of Environmental and Health Affairs, World Bank,
Washington

Mr George DELAUME, Legal Policy Adviser, World Bank, Washington

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Dr S. FLACHE, Special Programme Coordinator, Assistant Director-General

Dr A.O. LUCAS, Director, Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUMMARY FOR
THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON
THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL STRUCTURES OF THE
SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES

1. Despite the remarkable advances in medical science over recent decades, parasitic diseases still affect or threaten more than a thousand million people in the tropical countries, taking heavy toll in human lives and gravely impeding economic development. Furthermore, rather than coming under control, in many regions some of these diseases are increasing in both prevalence and severity.

2. This disease burden of the tropics is borne by the very people least equipped to control disease - the populations of the developing countries. Not only is development impeded by disease, but some of the development projects, such as manmade lakes and irrigation schemes designed to improve conditions, have in fact altered the ecology and aggravated major public health problems such as malaria and schistosomiasis.

3. In addition, technical problems have significantly reduced the effectiveness of some disease control programmes. A prime example is the increasing resistance of anopheline mosquitos to chemical control, the mainstay of the majority of malaria control programmes. In some areas, such insecticide resistance in the vector is combined with chloroquine-resistant strains of the malaria parasite in man, further increasing the severity of the problem.

In the case of filarial infections, especially in onchocerciasis, commonly called river blindness, there is still no effective and safe drug which can be relied upon to kill the adult worms in man. No vaccine is available for any of the parasitic infections and no new effective, cheap and safe drugs for the widespread treatment of the diseases have become available in the past three decades.

4. To stimulate and coordinate goal-oriented research leading to the development and application of new and improved tools for control of these diseases, the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases has been planned and initiated by the World Health Organization (WHO) with the assistance and co-sponsorship of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank (the Bank).

This Programme's two principal objectives can be summarized as:

- research and development for better tools to control tropical diseases, and
- training and strengthening of institutions to increase the research capability of tropical countries.

5. Criteria for selection of the diseases - malaria, schistosomiasis, filariasis, trypanosomiasis (both African sleeping sickness and the American form called Chagas' disease), leishmaniasis and leprosy - included:

- the impact of the disease as a public health problem;
- the absence of satisfactory methods for control of the disease in prevailing circumstances of the tropical countries;
- the presence of research opportunities leading to improved control methods.

Since several major problems requiring research apply to most or all of the six diseases, the Special Programme includes components on epidemiology and operational research, vector control, socio-economic and biomedical research.

6. Each component of the Special Programme is developed under the guidance and with the participation of multidisciplinary groups of scientists organized into a number of Scientific Working Groups, each with clearly defined research goals.

7. Intimately related to this search for new tools is the equally important and interdependent objective: the development of manpower and the strengthening of research institutions in the endemic countries of the tropics.

8. To these ends, institution strengthening activities focus upon the creation of a network of collaborating centres in tropical countries. These centres will become focal points for strengthening the research capabilities of the affected countries and will also be the sites for training activities.

9. The Special Programme is concerned to ensure that the full spectrum of technologists and scientists is trained to carry out the required research in accordance with the decisions and needs of the countries involved. Thus, while the Special Programme is especially concerned with training leaders in research, it is not neglecting the training of supporting workers in the laboratory, the clinic and the field.

10. The Special Programme must be looked upon as a long-term effort of twenty years or more. It is hoped, however, that within the next five years some of the new tools will be ready for extensive trials within the national health services of those countries needing them.

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RESOLUTIONS OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY AND EXECUTIVE BOARD OF WHO
(1974-1986)

WHA27.52 The Twenty-seventh World Health Assembly,

Recognizing that tropical parasitic diseases are one of the main obstacles to improving the level of health and socio-economic development in countries of the tropical and subtropical zones;

Bearing in mind the need to develop research on matters connected with the most important tropical parasitic diseases;

Realizing that national, regional or global programmes of tropical parasitic disease control can be implemented only if scientifically based methods and effective means for their control are available,

1. NOTES with satisfaction that the importance of the medical, social and economic aspects of the major tropical parasitic diseases has been recognized;
2. EMPHASIZES the urgent need for further development and intensification of research in this domain;
3. RECOMMENDS that Member States of WHO extend the activities of their national institutions for the development of research of prime importance for the control of the major tropical parasitic diseases;
4. REQUESTS the Director-General:
 - (1) to intensify WHO activities in the field of research on the major tropical parasitic diseases (malaria, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, the trypanosomiasis, etc.) taking into consideration that such activities be carried out in endemic areas whenever possible and feasible;
 - (2) to define the priorities in research on the problem of tropical parasitic diseases in the various regions of the world, bearing in mind the primary needs of the developing countries;
 - (3) to extend cooperation with national institutions and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations in regard to the coordination of research in this field;
 - (4) to enlist extrabudgetary resources on a wider scale for these purposes; and
5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director-General to submit a report on progress in the implementation of this resolution to the Executive Board at its fifty-seventh session and to the Twenty-ninth World Health Assembly.

May 1974

WHA28.51 The Twenty-eighth World Health Assembly,

Drawing the attention of Member States once more to one of the most urgent public health problems in the developing countries today - the tropical

parasitic diseases, and particularly onchocerciasis, filariasis, schistosomiasis and trypanosomiasis, which cause great damage to the people's health and retard social and economic progress in most of the developing countries;

Noting the steps taken by the Organization in accordance with resolution WHA27.52 to intensify research programmes in tropical parasitic diseases, as described in the Director-General's report on the work of WHO in 1974;

Considering it necessary to give priority attention to the development of recommendations and methods for these programmes for the control of the most important tropical parasitic diseases and primarily the programmes for the control of onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, etc., which are being already carried out or are at the active planning stage, using to this end all the experience accumulated by the Member States;

Welcoming the WHO biomedical research effort in this field,

1. URGES Member States, research and practical establishments and medical scientists working on aspects of tropical pathology to intensify their efforts to develop effective, safe and practicable means of controlling tropical parasitic diseases; and
2. REQUESTS the Director-General to undertake the measures needed to improve the system of coordinating the various programmes for the control of the tropical parasitic diseases and also the methods of carrying out these programmes and to pay special attention to these aspects in the report he is to make to the Twenty-ninth World Health Assembly under the terms of resolution WHA27.52.

May 1975

WHA28.70 The Twenty-eighth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the Director-General's report on WHO's work on the development and coordination of biomedical research;

2. REQUESTS the Director-General to accelerate work on formulating a comprehensive long-term WHO programme for the development and coordination of biomedical research and to pay particular attention to:

- (2) expanding and intensifying the special programme for research and training in tropical and parasitic diseases (including the formation of task-forces in relation to the promotion of research in the major tropical diseases);

4. THANKS those governments and voluntary agencies which have contributed funds for promoting WHO's research activities, particularly the special programme for research and training in tropical diseases;

5. EXPRESSES the hope that all Member States and voluntary agencies will make funds and other resources available to the maximum extent possible for the purpose of forwarding such research and research training activities, with special emphasis on the problems of the developing countries; and

May 1975

WHA28.71 The Twenty-eighth World Health Assembly,

Having examined the progress report submitted by the Director-General in accordance with resolution WHA27.61;

Noting that, as one aspect of the problem, particular attention was given to tropical parasitic diseases in resolution WHA27.52;

Taking into account the discussions at the fifty-fifth session of the Executive Board and resolution EB55.R35 as well as resolutions WHA28.51 and WHA28.53 on the development of methods for controlling tropical diseases,

1. THANKS the Director-General for his report;
2. APPROVES the Executive Board's endorsement of the steps taken or envisaged to develop the special programme for research and training in tropical diseases and to implement the other mechanisms for the promotion and coordination of biomedical research described in the progress report by the Director-General;
3. WELCOMES the progress already made in the formation of task-forces in relation to the promotion of research in the major tropical diseases and looks to an early development of new strategies in that field;
4. THANKS those governments and voluntary agencies which have contributed funds for promoting WHO's research activities, particularly the special programme for research and training in tropical diseases; and
5. EXPRESSES the hope that all Member States and voluntary agencies will make funds and other resources available to the maximum extent possible for the purpose of forwarding such research and research training activities, with special emphasis on the problems of the developing countries.

May 1975

EB57.R20 The Executive Board,

Having examined the progress report submitted by the Director-General in accordance with resolution WHA27.52; and

Considering that continuing importance should be given to intensifying research on tropical parasitic and other communicable diseases,

1. THANKS the Director-General for his report;
2. ENDORSES the steps taken or envisaged to implement the above resolution and also resolutions WHA28.51, WHA28.70 and WHA28.71;
3. RECOMMENDS the active development of the special programme for research and training in tropical diseases;
4. THANKS those governments and voluntary agencies that have already contributed support to test the new strategies being developed for research on tropical diseases and to implement the pilot activities involved;
5. EXPRESSES the hope that funds and other necessary forms of cooperation will continue to be made available for this purpose; and

6. TRANSMITS the report to the Twenty-ninth World Health Assembly, along with the comments of the Executive Board.

January 1976

WHA29.71 The Twenty-ninth World Health Assembly,

Having examined the progress report submitted by the Director-General describing the present status of planning and pilot operations of the special programme for research and training in tropical diseases, in accordance with resolution WHA27.52;

Recalling also resolutions WHA28.51, WHA28.66 and WHA28.71;

Taking note of the discussions at the fifty-seventh session of the Executive Board and of resolution EB57.R20, endorsing the steps taken and envisaged to intensify research on parasitic, other communicable and tropical diseases;

Realizing the need to mobilize all possible resources, including particularly the potential from the pharmaceutical sector, as part of the role of WHO in coordinating and accelerating the important special programme for research and training in tropical diseases;

1. THANKS the Director-General for his report;
2. APPROVES the development so far of the special programme for research and training in tropical diseases;
3. APPROVES the strategy of the development of scientific aspects of the research through scientific working groups (task forces) of eminent scientists brought together for the purpose by WHO, and the progress already made in establishing these groups and in their work which should best focus the available resources on correct priorities particularly in developing new pharmaceutical - e.g., chemotherapeutic and immunological - tools for disease control;
4. THANKS those governments and voluntary agencies which have contributed financially to the development of programme planning and pilot projects in this field;
5. URGES that all Member States participate as fully as possible in the work of the special programme by offering the cooperation of their researchers, and by donations of funds and the provision of facilities, in order to further the research and training activities planned;
6. REQUESTS the Director-General:
 - (1) to enlarge the network of WHO national scientific collaborating centres and institutions in order to enhance their contribution to this programme;
 - (2) to establish contacts with universities, appropriate research institutions and the pharmaceutical sector for the development of new methods of controlling tropical diseases and evolving new preventive and therapeutic substances;

(3) to report to the fifty-ninth session of the Executive Board and Thirtieth World Health Assembly on the progress made.

May 1976

EB59.R31 The Executive Board,

Having considered the progress report submitted by the Director-General, pursuant to resolution WHA29.71, on the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases;

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in the establishment of the programme and in the development of its initial activities;

Noting further that the programme is being implemented through close interdisciplinary collaboration within the Organization at both the global and regional levels;

Welcoming the substantial extrabudgetary contributions pledged in support of the programme and the willingness expressed to participate actively in its implementation;

Being convinced that the programme constitutes one of the major thrusts of the Organization's evolution towards more relevant and effective technical cooperation in the years to come;

Considering that the programme must be based on the broadest participation of governments, institutions and scientists throughout the world;

Recalling resolution WHA29.31 on the Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion;

1. NOTES with approval the report of the Director-General;
2. EXPRESSES APPRECIATION of the generous contributions to the Special Programme made so far or pledged for the future;
3. STRESSES the importance of all forms of contributions that national institutions and scientists can make towards the achievement of the objectives of the programme;
4. DECIDES to establish a Special Account for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases as a sub-account of the Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion, to be credited with all contributions made to WHO for activities in the framework of the Special Programme pending the final decisions about the handling of these funds;
5. RECOMMENDS to the World Health Assembly that it invite the Director-General:
 - (1) to include in his future programme budgets, starting with the 1980-1981 biennium, a lump-sum budgetary provision to be obligated in respect of any of the activities approved within the Special Programme;
 - (2) to use in the same way the budgetary provisions made for the 1978-1979 biennium according to priorities approved within the Special Programme;

(3) to endeavour to ensure that voluntary contributions to Special Programme funds be made to the greatest extent possible without restrictions on the uses to which they may be put among the activities approved within the programme;

6. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to continue to cooperate with the United Nations Development Programme, co-sponsor of the Special Programme, and the World Bank, particularly with regard to the further development of the financing of the programme;

(2) to include in his report to the Thirtieth World Health Assembly any new information available at that time on the development of the Special Programme.

January 1977

WHA30.42 The Thirtieth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the progress report submitted by the Director-General, pursuant to resolution WHA29.71, on the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases;

Having further taken cognizance of the views expressed by the Executive Board on this programme and of the recommendations made in resolution EB59.R31;

Considering that the most appropriate environment to conduct research and training activities is in the countries affected by the diseases in question;

Emphasizing again the need for national research and training institutions in every region to participate fully in the global networks of collaborating centres of the Special Programme;

1. NOTES with satisfaction the progress made towards the establishment of the programme and in the development of its initial activities in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, and the Member States;

2. EXPRESSES its appreciation of the generous contributions to the Special Programme made so far or pledged for the future;

3. URGES the Governments of Member States (a) to maximize their contributions, and, on the other hand, (b) to develop to the fullest possible extent national research and training institutions and facilities in support of the programme;

4. REQUESTS the Director-General to identify and develop such institutions and facilities in countries of each region;

5. INVITES the Director-General:

(1) to use the budgetary provisions made for the 1978-1979 biennium according to priorities approved within the Special Programme;

(2) to use in the same way any budgetary provisions for the Special

Programme which may be included in future programme budgets, starting with the 1980-1981 biennium;

(3) to endeavour to ensure that contributions to the Special Programme originating from (a) the Tropical Diseases Research Fund which the World Bank has been requested to consider establishing and managing, (b) the WHO Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion, and (c) other agency funds such as the contributions made by the United Nations Development Programme, be made to the greatest extent possible without restrictions on the uses to which they may be put among the activities approved within the programme;

6. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director-General to continue to report on the development of the Special Programme to the Executive Board and the Health Assembly.

May 1977

WHA33(13) The Thirty-third World Health Assembly, having noted the progress report of the Director-General on the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases, complimented the Director-General on the rapid and effective implementation of all areas of the Programme. The Assembly expressed its pleasure with the significant progress already made and its appreciation for the scientific and financial contributions to the Programme by over 80 Member States. It requested the Director-General to continue the development and operation of the Programme along the lines described in his progress report and to continue to make budgetary provisions for the Programme, to be used according to the approved priorities of the Programme.

May 1980

EB71.R10 The Executive Board,

Having examined the report of its Programme Committee, together with the report of the Joint Coordinating Board's External Review Committee on the first five years of operations of the UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases;

Noting that the problems facing national programmes for the control of the six diseases included in the Special Programme - malaria, schistosomiasis, filariasis, trypanosomiasis (both African and American), leishmaniasis, and leprosy - are even more serious than they were when the Special Programme began its operations;

Noting further that the two objectives of the Special Programme - research and development towards new and improved tools to control six major tropical diseases, and the strengthening of national institutions, including training, to increase the research capabilities in the tropical countries affected by these diseases - are essential to achieve disease control and are complementary within the scope and balance of the Programme;

1. CONSIDERS that the attainment of the goals of the Special Programme should be a major priority in the Organization's thrust towards health for all;
2. WELCOMES the significant scientific and technical progress already achieved;

3. ENDORSES the views of its Programme Committee that:
 - (1) the Programme's structure of a network of national institutions and its organization and management mechanisms are sound;
 - (2) the evaluation mechanisms built into the Programme are effective and may serve as an example for other programmes;
 - (3) the Programme's secretariat should continue to be located at the Organization's headquarters in Geneva;
4. EXPRESSES its appreciation of the generous financial contributions made to the Programme so far or pledged for the future;
5. REQUESTS the Director-General to study, in concert with the executive heads of the other two co-sponsoring organizations, the means of increasing the level of financial contributions to the Special Programme from the present contributors and of attracting new contributors to the Programme.

January 1983

EB77.R4 The Executive Board,

Having considered the progress report submitted by the Director-General on the UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases;

Recognizing that the Programme has achieved substantial progress in the development of vaccines, drugs, diagnostic methods and vector control agents to combat tropical parasitic diseases;

Noting that the Programme has made valuable contributions to the strengthening of the capability of tropical countries where the target diseases are endemic to conduct research on them;

Noting further that, despite the generosity of many Member States, international agencies and nongovernmental organizations, financial contributions have fallen short of requirements to implement the approved level of research and research-strengthening activities;

1. EXPRESSES its appreciation for the scientific and technical results already achieved by the Special Programme;
2. CONSIDERS that one of its most significant achievements has been to mobilize the knowledge and skills of scientists and scientific institutions in countries where the diseases are endemic and in other countries into a cohesive network for the development of new and improved methods to control tropical parasitic diseases;
3. WELCOMES the close collaboration between the Special Programme and other WHO programmes, especially those on parasitic diseases, malaria, vector biology and control and leprosy, for the control of tropical diseases, and between the Special Programme and the pharmaceutical industry in research on new technology against tropical diseases and the development and application of the results of such research;

4. URGES the Director-General to continue to give high priority to the Programme, in view of the need for new or improved means of controlling tropical parasitic diseases within the context of primary health care and strategies for health for all;
5. EMPHASIZES the importance of ensuring the rapid and widespread application of the results of research financed by the Programme in the national health strategies and programmes of countries;
6. EXPRESSES its appreciation to Member States for their collaboration in and financial contributions to the Programme; and to the other sponsoring agencies, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, for their continued support and assistance in the advancement, management and funding of the Programme;
7. URGES Member States, in particular in tropical areas where the diseases are endemic, to improve career structures for scientists and other personnel engaged in research on tropical diseases, especially for those engaged in field research;
8. URGES Member States to contribute or to increase their financial contributions to the Programme in order to accelerate the achievement of its objectives.

January 1986

TROPICAL DISEASES RESEARCH FUND ARRANGEMENTS

Between

World Health Organization

and

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

WHEREAS (A) a Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (The Programme), has been planned and initiated by the WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO), with the assistance and co-sponsorship of the UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP) and the INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (the Bank), to stimulate and coordinate research and training in tropical diseases.

(B) the Programme, which is a long-term endeavour spreading over two decades, has two principal objectives:

- (1) to develop for large-scale application, effective and low cost methods to control at present six tropical diseases, namely: malaria, schistosomiasis, filariasis, trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis and leprosy; and
- (2) to train scientists and technicians and strengthen research institutions in the countries affected by the diseases, thus increasing the capability of these countries to deal with the problems of disease control.

(C) pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding dated February 2, 1978 (hereinafter called the Memorandum of Understanding, appended hereto as Annex I) describing the features of the administrative and technical structures for the Programme, WHO has been requested and has agreed to act as Executing Agency in carrying out the Programme;

(D) the Bank has agreed at the request of WHO and of Fund contributors (as that term is defined in section 1.01 of these arrangements) to establish and administer a Tropical Diseases Research Fund consisting of the contributions of governments and other organizations; and

(E) UNDP has agreed to serve as co-sponsor of the Programme and to lend it its fullest support.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

Definitions

Section 1.01. Except where the context otherwise requires, the following terms have the following meanings wherever used in these Arrangements:

(a) "Fund" means the Tropical Diseases Research Fund established by these Arrangements.

(b) "Fund Contributors" means those Governments and Organizations which make contributions to the Fund.

(c) "JCB" means the Joint Coordinating Board constituted pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE II

Establishment of the Tropical Diseases Research Fund

Section 2.01. There is hereby established the Tropical Diseases Research Fund, constituted by the monies which the Fund Contributors shall from time to time contribute to the Fund together with any additions thereto and any other assets or receipts of the Fund, to be held in trust and administered by the Bank and used only for the purposes, and in accordance with the provisions of, these Arrangements.

Section 2.02. The Fund and its assets and accounts shall be kept separate and apart from all other accounts and assets of the Bank and shall be separately designated in such appropriate manner as the Bank shall determine.

Section 2.03. The Bank shall exercise the same care in the administration and management of the Fund and in the discharge of its other functions under these Arrangements as it exercises in respect of the administration and management of its own affairs.

ARTICLE III

Operation of the Fund

Section 3.01. As and when monies shall be contributed to the Fund by Fund Contributors, the Bank shall promptly inform WHO of the amounts of such contributions.

Section 3.02. When WHO shall desire to withdraw any amount from the Fund, WHO shall deliver to the Bank a written application therefor. Except as the Bank and WHO shall otherwise agree, any such application shall be submitted every two months on account of estimated payments to be made during the following two months.

Section 3.03. The Bank shall pay to, or on the order of, WHO out of the monies in the Fund amounts for payment to be made by WHO for the Programme in accordance with the provisions of these Arrangements.

Section 3.04. (a) Amounts disbursed from the Fund shall be used by WHO exclusively to finance the costs of goods and services required to carry out the Programme as approved by the JCB.

(b) WHO shall furnish to the Bank all such information as the Bank shall

reasonably request concerning the expenditure of the monies disbursed from the Fund.

Section 3.05. (a) The Bank shall, within 30 days after June 1, 1979 and each June 1 thereafter, send to each of the Fund Contributors and to WHO an interim statement of contributions to, receipts of, and disbursements from, the Fund.

(b) The Bank shall within 90 days after December 31, 1978 and each December 31 thereafter send to each of the Fund Contributors and to the WHO a statement of contributions to, receipts of, and disbursements from, the Fund. The Bank shall, as soon as possible thereafter, send to such Fund Contributors and to WHO a supplementary statement certified by the Bank's external auditors. The cost of such a statement shall be charged by the Bank to the Fund as an operating expense.

ARTICLE IV

Consultation and Termination

Section 4.01. In the event that WHO and/or the Bank shall have determined that circumstances have arisen which lead either party to conclude that it should no longer carry out its obligations hereunder:

(a) WHO and/or the Bank shall promptly notify the Fund Contributors and the Bank may by notice to said Fund Contributors suspend disbursements from the Fund in whole or in part, provided, however, that such suspension, if any, shall not apply to amounts relating to obligations theretofore incurred by WHO for the Programme.

(b) WHO and the Bank shall forthwith consult together concerning measures to be taken to correct the situation. If, after such consultation, WHO and the Bank shall decide that the situation is not likely to be corrected, WHO and the Bank shall so notify the Fund Contributors. Upon such notification, the obligations of WHO and the Bank under these Arrangements shall cease, except to the extent that there would remain in the Fund amounts contributed to the Fund and such amounts would be needed by WHO to make payments on account of obligations theretofore incurred by WHO for the Programme. To the extent that such amounts would not be needed by WHO, the Bank shall transfer them to the Fund Contributors, in proportion to their respective contributions.

For the International Bank for
Reconstruction and Development

For the World Health Organization

(signed)

(signed)

Mr R. S. McNamara
President

Dr H. Mahler
Director-General

1 March 1978

10 March 1978

UNDP/WORLD BANK/WHO SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR
RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES

TDR/JCB/SELECT.PROC./83.1
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PROCEDURES FOR THE SELECTION OF MEMBERS
OF THE JOINT COORDINATING BOARD
ACCORDING TO PARAGRAPH 2.2.1 OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

1. INTRODUCTION

These procedures were adopted at the sixth meeting of resource contributors held at WHO headquarters, Geneva, on 28 June 1983. The participants at this meeting are listed in the attached annex.

2. DEFINITION

Paragraph 2.2.1 of the Memorandum of Understanding -

"Twelve government representatives selected by the contributors to the Special Programme Resources."

(document TDR/CP/78.5, page 2, February 1978)

3. PROCEDURES

3.1 Invitations

Cooperating Parties which have made financial contributions to the Special Programme Resources during the last calendar year and/or the current year up to 60 days before the next scheduled session of the Joint Coordinating Board will be invited to meetings of the resource contributors. Invitations will not be sent to Cooperating Parties which have only indicated either verbally or in writing that they will make a financial contribution during the current year.

3.2 Voting Rights

Voting rights will be extended automatically to both governments and other Cooperating Parties which are invited to and attend the meetings.

3.3 Eligibility for JCB Membership

Governments which have made financial contributions to the Special Programme resources during the last calendar year and/or the current year up to 60 days before the next scheduled session of the Joint Coordinating Board are eligible for JCB membership according to paragraph 2.2.1 of the Memorandum of Understanding. Governments which have only indicated either verbally or in writing that they will make a financial contribution during the current year are not eligible for JCB membership under paragraph 2.2.1.

3.4 Application for Membership

(a) Applications for one of the 12 Board positions selected by the resource contributors must be submitted in writing by eligible governments to

the Special Programme Coordinator at least 60 days before the next scheduled session of the JCB.

(b) Applications for JCB membership under paragraph 2.2.1 of the Memorandum of Understanding are valid for consideration by the resource contributors at one meeting only and cannot be carried over to subsequent meetings. Therefore eligible governments must reapply [as noted under 3.4(a)] each time they wish to stand for JCB membership under paragraph 2.2.1.

28 June 1983

NINTH SESSION OF THE JOINT COORDINATING BOARD

TDR/JCB(9)/86.7 Rev.1

Geneva, 25 and 26 June 1986

DECISION OF THE JOINT COORDINATING BOARD ON DESIGNATED FUNDING

The Joint Coordinating Board (JCB), at its Ninth Session in June 1986, considered the Report of the JCB Committee on Designated Funding, established by the Board at its Eighth Session in June 1985 [document TDR/JCB(9)/86.7].

JCB(9) agreed that three main principles must be kept in mind to enable the Programme to continue its work:

1. the importance of implementing the Programme in accordance with the decisions of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and the JCB;
2. the scientific independence of STAC and the Scientific Working Groups should not be compromised; and
3. arrangements for contributions should be as flexible as possible to allow contributors to make maximum contributions to meet the Programme's needs, but without compromising the principles stipulated under points 1 and 2 above.

The JCB strongly reaffirmed that the preferred mode of funding of the Special Programme is by means of undesigned contributions. Such contributions provide the maximum flexibility, with the minimum of administrative requirements, for the Special Programme. In particular, undesigned contributions permit the exercise of the vast pool of scientific judgement available to the Special Programme in the determination of research thrusts, priorities, allocation of funds and support for particular proposals, without having to take into account particular preferences or requirements of specific contributors.

The JCB felt that it would be appropriate for the Special Programme to accept designated contributions, subject to certain conditions, if this would encourage present contributors to increase their contributions beyond current levels, or attract new contributors. The JCB agreed that the Special Programme can accept designated contributions subject to the following conditions:

1. The TDR programme of activities and budget will continue to be presented as a whole and will continue to be prepared and reviewed through the existing mechanisms of the Programme Secretariat, Scientific Working Groups, Steering Committees, Research Strengthening Group, Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee, Standing Committee and Joint Coordinating Board. The programme and budget decisions and their implementation will not be influenced by designated contributions.
2. Contributions can be designated for the four Programme Areas or for Programme Components within the JCB-approved Programme budget, as specified in the list attached in annex.

3. Existing contributors can designate up to 50% of their total contribution, provided that the undesignated portion of their contribution is equal to or above the level of the preceding year's undesignated contribution.
4. New contributors can designate up to 50% of their total contribution.
5. Designated contributions can be accepted up to the level of 75% of the total amount approved for an individual Programme Area or Component, provided that no single contributor contributes more than 49% of the total amount approved for an individual Programme Area or Component.
6. Should more than one contributor wish to designate contributions which together exceed the limit of 75% of the total amount approved for a particular Programme Area or Component, the Programme Secretariat will consult with the contributors of designated funds to that particular Programme Area or Component and the excess funds will be either (a) made available for designation to another Programme Area or Component; or (b) transferred as undesignated contributions; or (c) carried over to the following biennium for use within the same Area or Component.
7. Should it become necessary to reduce the budget of the Special Programme in the course of its implementation because of lack of sufficient funds, appropriate reductions will be applied to Programme Areas and Components, in accordance with approved procedures, irrespective of whether a Programme Area or Component is financed by designated funds. Consequential reductions in designated funds will be pro-rated amongst the contributors of such funds and will be transferred to undesignated funds.
8. There will be no special reporting on Programme Areas and Components which have received designated funding. The programme and financial reports prepared for the JCB will be made available to all contributors. Any contributor or member of the JCB may, within reasonable limits, request additional information.
9. Contributors wishing to pledge designated funds are urged to do so in writing as early as possible in the biennium.

JCB(9) decided that the new policy would be monitored closely by STAC and the JCB and revised, if necessary, in the light of experience. The policy remained in effect for a trial period of two years.

JCB(11) in 1988 received a report on the experience with designated funding during the trial period and agreed to the continuation of the policy.

Annex

SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH
AND TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES

Programme Areas and Programme Components for
which designated funds may be accepted:

- I TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES
- II RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
 - General Activities
 - Malaria
 - Chemotherapy of Malaria (CHEMAL)
 - Immunology of Malaria (IMMAL)
 - Applied Field Research in Malaria (FIELDMAL)
 - Schistosomiasis (SCH)
 - Filariasis (FIL)
 - African Trypanosomiases (TRY)
 - Chagas' Disease (CHA)
 - Leishmaniases (LEI)
 - Leprosy
 - Immunology of Leprosy (IMMLEP)
 - Chemotherapy of Leprosy (THELEP)
 - Biological Control of Vectors (BCV)
 - Epidemiology (EPI)
 - Social and Economic Research (SER)
- III RESEARCH CAPABILITY STRENGTHENING
 - General Activities
 - Institutional Grants
 - Training
- IV PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

TENTH SESSION OF THE JOINT COORDINATING BOARD

TDR/JCB(10)/87.9
ANNEX III Rev.1

Geneva, 24 and 25 June 1987

DECISION OF THE JOINT COORDINATING BOARD ON
PROCEDURES FOR BUDGET REVISION

1. Director, TDR may prepare revised budgets in the course of a financial biennium, based on estimates of funds available during the biennium.
2. Director, TDR may make revisions (increases or decreases) of up to 10% of the amount approved by the Joint Coordinating Board (JCB) for any Programme Component, as contained in the Budget Summary of the Programme Budget. The Director shall report such revisions to the Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and to the Standing Committee.
3. Revisions in excess of 10% of the amount approved by the JCB for any Programme Component shall require the concurrence of Chairman, STAC and the approval of the Standing Committee.
4. All budget revisions made under the procedures described above shall be reported to the JCB at its next session.
5. The procedures set forth above shall apply specifically to budget revisions which do not exceed the Programme Budget level approved by the JCB for the biennium.
6. Budget revisions which exceed the Programme Budget level originally approved by the JCB for the biennium shall require the approval of the JCB.