

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATIONORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉTHIRD WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLYA3/Prog/21 ✓
17 May 1950

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMME

DRAFT THIRD REPORT

At its ninth, tenth and eleventh meetings held on 16 and 17 May the Committee on Programme took the following decisions:

1. Expert Committee on Health Statistics: Report on Second Session

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

1. NOTES the report of the Expert Committee on Health Statistics on its second session,¹ and
2. THANKS the experts for their work,
3. ADOPTS, as recommendations under Article 23 of the Constitution and Article 17 of Regulations No.1 of the World Health Organization, the definitions of "live birth" and "foetal death", from paragraphs 1 and 2 of the report of the Sub-Committee on the Definition of Stillbirth

¹ Document A3/67, WHO/HS/26 - which includes

Subcommittee on the Definition of Stillbirth and Abortion
Report on the first session (document WHO/HS/STDEF/9 Rev.1)

Subcommittee on Hospital Statistics
Report of the first session (document WHO/HS/Hosp.Stat./7 Rev.1)

Subcommittee on the Registration of cases of Cancer
as well as their Statistical Presentation
Report of the first session (document WHO/HS/CANC/12 Rev.1)

and Abortion as well as the recommendations of that Sub-Committee made on "the registration and tabulation of live births and infant deaths" in paragraph 3 of its report,

4. REQUESTS the Director-General to give these definitions as much publicity as possible with a view to their wide acceptance;
5. ADOPTS also as recommendations under the said provisions of the Constitution and Regulations No.1, the statistical definition of "cancer" given in the report of the Sub-Committee on Cancer Statistics; and
6. AGREES to submit to the various nations for study and experimental use all the other pertinent recommendations contained in the reports of these three Sub-Committees and to suggest to National Committees on Vital and Health Statistics (or their equivalent) the studies mentioned in the said report (Points I (3) (4)).

2. Population Problems

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly:

ENDORSES the resolution on population problems adopted by the Executive Board at its fifth session.¹

3. International Biological Standards

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the following resolution:

¹ Off. Rec. World Hlth. Org. 25, 9, item 3.1

The Third World Health Assembly

In virtue of articles 2 (u) and 21 (d) and (e) of the Constitution,

1. RECOMMENDS

(a) that Member States of the Organization recognize officially the international standard preparations and units enumerated below:

International standard preparations	International units
Diphtheria antitoxin	0.0628 mg
Tetanus antitoxin	0.3094 mg
Anti-dysentery serum (Shiga)	0.0500 mg
Scarlet fever antitoxin	- *
Staphylococcus alpha antitoxin	0.5000 mg
Anti-pneumococcus serum (Type I)	0.0886 mg
Anti-pneumococcus serum (Type II)	0.0894 mg
Gas-gangrene antitoxin (Perfringens)	0.2660 mg
Gas-gangrene antitoxin (Vibrior. septique)	0.2377 mg
Gas-gangrene antitoxin (Edematiens)	0.2681 mg
Gas-gangrene antitoxin (Histolyticus)	0.3575 mg
Gas-gangrene antitoxin (Sordelli)	0.1334 mg
Anti-A blood group serum	- *
Anti-B blood group serum	- *
Old tuberculin	0.01 ml
Diphtheria antitoxin for flocculation test	
Vitamin A acetate	0.000344 mg
Provitamin A (beta-carotene)	0.0006 mg
Vitamin B ₁ (Pure synthetic vitamin B ₁)	0.003 mg
Vitamin B ₁₂ (Pure crystalline)	- *
Vitamin C (l-ascorbic acid)	0.05 mg
Vitamin D ₃ (crystalline)	0.000025 mg
Vitamin E (alpha-tocopherol acetate)	1.0 mg
Neorsphenamine	-
Sulpharsphenamine	-
Insulin (Pure crystalline insulin)	0.0455 mg
Pituitary (Posterior lobe) powder	0.5 mg
Digitalis	76.0 mg
Ouabain	-
Androsterone	0.1 mg
Corpus luteum hormone (Progesterone)	1.0 mg
Chorionic gonadotrophin	0.1 mg
Serum gonadotrophin	0.25 mg
Prolactin (galactin or mammotrophin)	0.1 mg
Heparin	0.0077 mg
Penicillin G	0.0006 mg
Streptomycin	- *

* Unit potency to be assigned at the next session of the Expert Committee on Biological Standardization.

- (b) that these standards and units be introduced into the national pharmacopoeias to serve as a reference for assay;
 - (c) that in those countries which do not possess a national pharmacopoeia, the potency appearing on the labels of biological products be expressed in international units;
- (2) INVITES the Director-General to enquire periodically from Members regarding the use being made of international standards in their countries.

4. Expert Committee on Unification of Pharmacopoeias: report on fifth session

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

NOTES the report of the fifth session of the Expert Committee on the Unification of Pharmacopoeias,¹ and

EXPRESSES its gratitude to the Committee for their work.

5. Pharmacopœa Internationalis

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

1. APPROVES the publication of the Pharmacopœa Internationalis; and
2. RECOMMENDS the eventual inclusion of its provisions in the national pharmacopoeias after the adoption of the said provisions by the authorities responsible for the pharmacopoeias.

¹ World Hlth Org. Techn. Rep. Ser. 12

6. Non-proprietary Names for Drugs

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

Recognizing the desirability that a system of non-proprietary names be established internationally for such new pharmaceutical products as might be contemplated for later insertion in the Pharmacopoea Internationalis,

(1) APPROVES the general principles enumerated by the Expert Committee on the Unification of Pharmacopoeias at its fifth session; and

(2) RESOLVES as follows:

(a) the Expert Committee on the Unification of Pharmacopoeias should undertake the selection and approval of non-proprietary names for drugs which might be described in later editions of the Pharmacopoea Internationalis;

(b) such names as are from time to time selected and approved by the Expert Committee should be communicated by the Director-General to national pharmacopoeial authorities, together with a recommendation that these names be officially recognized and approved, and, if the substances are eventually included in the national pharmacopoeia, adopted as pharmacopoeial names;

(c) such recommendations shall further include a request that such measures as may be deemed appropriate by States Members be taken with a view to preventing the use of the names selected for unauthorized purposes, and in particular to prevent the granting of exclusive proprietary rights in these names to the manufacturer.

7. Expert Committee on Drugs Liable to Produce Addiction: report on second session.

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

NOTES the report of the second session of the Expert Committee on Drugs liable to produce addiction,¹ and

COMMENDS the Committee for their work.

8. Expert Committee on Antibiotics: report on first session

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

Having considered the report of the Expert Committee on Antibiotics² and the resolution taken on it by the ad hoc Committee of the Executive Board,³

NOTES the report of the Expert Committee;

THANKS the Executive Board for their work;

REQUESTS the Executive Board to examine the report from the point of view of the practicability of the recommendations therein, in the light of the discussions which have taken place in the Programme Committee and to take any desirable action within the budgetary resources available;

REQUESTS the Executive Board to consider the desirability of asking the Expert Committee to examine the feasibility of:

¹ Technical Reports Series 1950, No.21

² WHO/Annals/9

³ A3/62

- (1) drawing up a concrete programme for the training of experts in the preparation of antibiotics and in research thereon,
- (2) organizing such training,
- (3) setting up under the supervision of WHO, of a pilot plant for the production of antibiotics and research on that subject,
- (4) collecting and making available to interested health administrations precise information on the cost of construction and operation of an antibiotic plant, including equipment and material required and personnel needed for effective operation.

9. Draft report of the Joint meeting of the Committee on Programme and the Committee on Administration, Finance and Legal Matters

The Committee on Programme adopted this draft report.¹

10. Reconsideration of publications programme

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

In view of the fundamental importance of the programme of publications of the Organization, considered not only as a statutory obligation inherited from previous international organizations, but also as an activity particularly favourable to the effectiveness and prestige of WHO,

Considering that the time has come, two years after the final establishment of the Organization, to proceed to a general examination of the results obtained and to determine the future direction of the programme of publications,

¹ Document A3/Prog/AFL/1

NOTES the results achieved up till now, despite indisputable difficulties especially of a financial and material nature,

APPROVES the programme of publications proposed for 1951¹, on the understanding that it will be amended in accordance with the principles enunciated in the note annexed to this resolution

REQUESTS the Director-General

- (1) to bear in mind, subject to budgetary limitations, as concerns the development of the activities of the Organization in this field, the principles enunciated in the Annex, from the dual viewpoint of the structure and frequency of the various publications,
- (2) to take all measures capable of ensuring the quality of the publications in the different languages employed,
- (3) to submit to the Executive Board and the Fourth Assembly a special report on the measures adopted in application of the present resolution,

REQUESTS the Executive Board to submit its observations and comments on this report to the Fourth Assembly,

DRAWS THE ATTENTION of the States Members to the importance of the strict application of Article 63 of the Constitution, and

RECOMMENDS that they adopt adequate measures in this connexion within the framework of their national health administrations.

10.1 The Committee also decided to refer to the Committee on Administration, Finance and Legal Matters the question of amending the Financial Rules, since under the present Rules part of the cost of publications which cannot be issued in 1950 will have to be charged to the 1951 publications budget, thus reducing the availability of funds for publications scheduled for 1951.

¹ Off. Rec. World Health Org., 23, p.90-91

11. Languages of Publication of the Bulletin of WHO

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

REQUESTS the Executive Board to consider a proposal for

1. discontinuing publication of separate editions of the Bulletin in English and French
2. publishing, as from the first number of volume 3 of the Bulletin, a single edition containing articles either in English or in French according to the language in which they are submitted, with summaries in both the working languages of the Organization;

AUTHORIZES the Director-General to introduce such changes so soon as the Board may decide.

12. International Digest of Health Legislation/Report on Presentation and Publication of Health Legislation Considered to be of International Importance

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

NOTES the report made by the Director-General, at the request of the Second World Health Assembly, on the methods considered to be most satisfactory of making available information on health legislation and of presentation and publication of such health legislation as is considered to be of international importance;

REQUESTS the Executive Board to study this report in detail;

AUTHORIZES the Director-General to introduce immediately any changes in the presentation and publication of health legislation which may be decided upon by the Board, providing that such changes do not raise the costs of publication of the International Digest of Health Legislation above the estimates in the proposed programme of publications for 1951.¹

¹ Off. Rec. World Hlth. Org. 23, 90

13. International Health Yearbook

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

NOTES the recommendation of the Executive Board to defer for future consideration the proposal to publish an International Health Yearbook¹

14. Salmonellae

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

NOTES the request of the Netherlands Delegation concerning typhoid and paratyphoid B; and

REQUESTS the Expert Committee on International Epidemiology and Quarantine to consider the possibility of utilizing methods for facilitating the campaign against typhoid and paratyphoid B, in particular by means of international collaboration for the discovery of carriers and the application of methods to prevent the infection of food.

15. Smallpox

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

REQUESTS the Expert Committee on Biological Standardization to consider the question of the establishment of a centre for the testing and standardization of smallpox vaccines, with particular reference to dried vaccine, and

RECOMMENDS that greater weight should be given to smallpox in the regular Programme for 1952.

¹ Off. Rec. World Hlth Org. 25, 8, item 2.4.1

16. Yellow-Fever Panel: report on first session

The Committee on Programme recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Third World Health Assembly

NOTES the report of the Yellow-Fever Panel;¹ and

THANKS the experts for their work.

¹ Document A3/12. (WHO/YF/4 Rev.2)

ANNEX

Principles which should govern the expansion of the
programme of publications

1. The Bulletin of the World Health Organization is the fundamental publication of the Organization, texts to be included therein should consequently be chosen on the grounds of high technical or scientific quality combined with as wide an international appeal as possible.

The Bulletin should include a bibliographical section, comprising not only references, but also abstracts of original documents.

The Bulletin should appear monthly; this rhythm of publication should be put into practice as soon as possible, in principle from 1952.

2. The International Digest of Health Legislation should comprise complete documentation of as recent a date as possible on the national health laws and regulations "... considered to be of international importance".¹

It should be issued not only bound, but also as separate sheets and fascicles enabling classification by subject and by State to be carried out.

According to their importance, the texts in the Digest should be either: reproduced verbatim, indicated only by a reference, briefly abstracted or partially cited.

In addition to the table of contents, the Digest should contain a classified index arranging the text according to subject.

The Digest should appear every three months.

3. The Chronicle should keep to the role of publicity and general information for which it was originally intended.

¹ WHA/28 - Off. Rec. World Hlth Org. 21, 20