

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATIONORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ

Special Committee
established by the III WHA
to consider the Draft
International Sanitary Regulations

A3-4/SR/25
16 April 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL SANITARY REGULATIONS

Hygiene and Sanitation of Airports

Draft resolution presented by IATA representative

The Special Committee for the examination of the draft WHO Regulations No.2 (International Sanitary Regulations) draws the attention of the Fourth World Health Assembly to the fact that to facilitate commercial aviation, so as to attain the maximum of speed in flight, transit and turn-round together with safety, economy and efficiency, it is essential to protect the health of aircrew at all airports en route.

The Committee wishes to point out that air commerce is mainly concerned with passengers and mail, and not with freight. That, unlike a ship, a commercial passenger aircraft cannot with safety take-off from any airport unless every member of the flight crew is fit. Should an aircrew member fall sick a replacement is necessary, and this may detain an aircraft for hours, or for a day or more, depending on the location, before a fresh member can be positioned. Incidentally, it is uneconomic and impracticable to base aircrews overseas or, in most instances, to carry duplicate crews on account of pay-load considerations.

The Committee considers that it is necessary for there to be local health control at airports not only of the epidemic diseases dealt with in the present Regulations, but also of other diseases, such as dysentery, food poisoning, gastroenteritis, and malaria, as experience shows that sickness of aircrew is commonly contracted at unhygienic airports, particularly in warm climates.

The Committee is of the opinion that there should be such a high standard of hygiene and sanitation at all international airports and transit areas, at least on main trunk routes, as to ensure that there is no delay in services on account

