

WORLD HEALTH  
ORGANIZATIONORGANISATION MONDIALE  
DE LA SANTÉSEVENTH WORLD HEALTH  
ASSEMBLYA7/VR/9 Corr.1  
20 May 1954

ORIGINAL : SPANISH

NINTH PLENARY MEETING

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD

CORRIGENDAPage 15, second paragraph

ninth line: Delete the words "Maroc, 3 unités (Actes officiels No 44)" and replace by: "Maroc (Protectorat français), 3 unités (Actes officiels No 44, page 47)".

last line: After "comptable" insert the words "de caractère non officiel".

SEPTIEME ASSEMBLEE MONDIALE  
DE LA SANTEA7/VR/9 Corr.1  
20 mai 1954

ORIGINAL : ESPAGNOL

NEUVIEME SEANCE PLENIERE

COMPTE RENDU IN EXTENSO PROVISOIRE

CORRIGENDAPage 15, deuxième paragraphe

neuvième ligne : Supprimer les mots "Maroc, 3 unités (Actes officiels No 44)", et remplacer par : "Maroc (Protectorat français), 3 unités (Actes officiels No 44, page 47)".

dernière ligne : Après "comptable" insérer les mots "de caractère non officiel".

WORLD HEALTH  
ORGANIZATIONSEVENTH WORLD HEALTH  
ASSEMBLYORGANISATION MONDIALE  
DE LA SANTÉSEPTIEME ASSEMBLE MONDIALE  
DE LA SANTEA7/VR/9  
18 May 1954  
18 mai 1954NINTH PLENARY MEETINGTuesday, 18 May 1954, at 5 p.m.NEUVIEME SEANCE PLENIEREMardi, 18 mai 1954, à 17 h.

Palais des Nations, Genève

## PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD

## COMPTE RENDU IN EXTENSO PROVISOIRE

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1. ADDRESS BY THE RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR  
ALLOCUTION DE LA RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR

The PRESIDENT: The meeting is called to order.

Because of the late arrival of some of the delegates the Secretariat has had to rearrange the seating. We hope that this has not been too inconvenient for some of you who are accustomed to certain seats in the Assembly Hall.

I see in our midst Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, one of our former Presidents of the World Health Assembly. We are certainly happy to see her here. We certainly welcome you here and if you have anything to say I am sure the members would be glad to hear from you.

Rajkumari AMRIT KAUR: Mr. President and friends, I am grateful indeed for the very warm welcome that has been accorded to me. I did not expect to come here really and have the privilege of seeing anybody because I am just in transit and stopping for a day. I am very fortunate indeed to be able to come to a plenary meeting. I was very sorry that I could not accompany my delegation this year, but my heart is always with the World Health Organization. India has been one of its foundation Members; the people of India love the World Health Organization and we are grateful for all the help that we have had and the opportunities that these gatherings give to us in cementing the bonds of international friendship which are so very much needed in the world of today. I thank you, Mr. President, and I am quite sure that this session, like every past session, will all go well for the future and will be able to expand the work, the good work, that this organization is doing.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, for having come here to be with us. We certainly miss you this year and regret your not being on your delegation, but I can assure you that those who represented India have made a wonderful contribution and are certainly doing well as usual. . . . That you may convey to your Government.

2. ADDRESS BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF UNESCO.  
ALLOCUTION DU DIRECTEUR GENERAL DE L'UNESCO

The President: And now, to continue with our agenda - we are happy to have in our midst this afternoon Mr. Luther Evans, Director-General of UNESCO, who has come to visit us during our present session.

Mr. Evans.

Mr. Luther EVANS, Director-General of UNESCO: Mr. President, delegates - and I think some of you are friends - it is an honour and a pleasure to me to be asked to come and speak to the Assembly of one of the sister organizations in the family of the United Nations and of specialized agencies. I trust that the World Health Organization will respond to an invitation from UNESCO to send a representative, the Director-General if possible, to attend the next General Conference of UNESCO, which will be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, in November next.

I am sure that members of this Assembly realize that there has been continuing co-operation between the World Health Organization and UNESCO since the agreement which was signed between the two organizations in 1948. In order to work out the details of collaboration between the two secretariats pursuant to this agreement of 1948, a meeting of responsible officers of the two organizations was held in 1950 and since that time, at least as we see it from UNESCO House, there has been exemplary collaboration, co-operation and understanding between our two secretariats.

We in UNESCO wish strongly to continue this spirit of collaboration and even to improve it if it is possible to do so, because we recognize, as do you, that a co-ordinated approach is essential if we are to tackle the problems of health and education. Both aspects of the problems which face mankind must be tackled at the same time by co-ordinated approach if we are to succeed. This is clearly recognized in your own Constitution, which defines health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Certainly mental well-being is of concern to the educator as well it is to the doctor, and we recognize that physical well-being and social well-being are an essential part of the development of education.

In detail, we are very grateful for the general support which the World Health Organization has given to UNESCO, in its campaign to develop the whole field of fundamental education in our Member States. By fundamental education we mean, not only the teaching of literacy but teaching people, in rural communities particularly, how to improve their sanitary and health conditions, how to improve their conservation of the soil and their utilization of the soil, and their plant and animal resources; and in this you have supplied us with health and sanitation specialists in a number of our projects. Our own programme in this field would not be complete if it were not that you are co-operating to round out the programme which we are undertaking. I feel quite certain that our own work would be incomplete and in considerable measure a failure without your collaboration.

We appreciate also the fact that the Director-General invited UNESCO to participate in the technical discussions on public-health problems in rural areas, which I understand have taken place during your session. UNESCO has been given an

opportunity by this invitation to discuss the relations between the development of education and the improvement of health conditions of the peoples in rural areas, and in this matter we have learned a lot from the Member States of WHO and from the officers of the Organization.

Both organizations attach great importance to giving the children of the world the benefits of a balanced and healthy education. We have been carrying on a great deal of common work in studying such problems as the relation between education and the mental health of children in nursery schools and primary schools, but a wider approach to this problem has become necessary and it is being advanced in connexion with the Inter-Agency Working Group on the Continuing Needs of Children. So we shall both be discussing in common many of these problems, in relation particularly to free and compulsory education, **at the meeting which is to be held** in Geneva at the end of June.

You know, of course, that, as regards the promotion of scientific co-operation at the international level, we have jointly sponsored and assisted the work of the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences. We have co-operated in developing and improving bibliographies and abstracts, in developing technical terms in the fields of medicine, and in the development of teaching materials. These ways of technical co-operation are sometimes fundamental to the achievement of the great policy objectives.

As regards the field of encouragement of research in science, the two organizations must co-operate closely and keep one another closely informed, and plan work jointly if there is not to be conflict, because both organizations are interested in one or other aspect of research in the natural sciences. UNESCO is interested in the

promotion of scientific research as a whole, and the World Health Organization is certainly interested, whatever its work plan of a particular year may be, in the activities in the field of research where medicine is a beneficiary of the results of such research.

Recently at our Executive Board a member of the Board proposed that something should be done to promote research in physiology, chemistry and so forth - it had some bearing on cancer; so a resolution was passed by our Board saying that we should study the possibility of a project in this field in close co-operation with the World Health Organization. We are now working in the final stages on our draft programme and budget for our Assembly that meets in November, and we are striving to make sure that any project we propose to our General Conference will have the full and understanding support of the Secretariat of this organization. I promise you that we will work in the closest collaboration and if at all possible we will make the work a joint undertaking.

Mr. President, I note that one of the delegates in this Assembly is a highly respected member of the Executive Board of UNESCO. I refer to Sir Arcot Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, who I understand was formerly a Chairman of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization. We are never for a moment allowed to forget in UNESCO's Executive Board how important it is for UNESCO to follow in the footsteps of many of the administrative practices and procedures, and many of the policies, of the World Health Organization. I assure you that the recommendations which he makes to us are all good ones, and that if we would take all his recommendations we should vastly improve our own operations. I hope that he gives similar advice to you and that you also find it possible to accept such advice.

Mr. President, in closing may I assure you again of the most earnest desire of the staff, the Executive Board and the General Conference of UNESCO to collaborate, not only in a routinely correct manner, but zealously and with feeling and with genuine interest with this great organization.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Mr. Luther Evans, Director-General of UNESCO. We appreciate the collaboration that we have been having from UNESCO and certainly hope that it will continue in the years and the tasks that are ahead of us.

3. ADOPTION OF SECOND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND LEGAL MATTERS

ADOPTION DU DEUXIEME RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION DES QUESTIONS ADMINISTRATIVES, FINANCIERES ET JURIDIQUES

The PRESIDENT: We now continue with our agenda. The first item on the agenda is the adoption of the second report of the Committee on Administration, Finance and Legal Matters, as found in document A7/28. In keeping with Rule 51 of our Rules of Procedure we are supposed to have had this report circulated to you at least twenty-four hours before our plenary meeting. However, there is a clause within that rule which provides "in so far as practicable" and, since it was not practicable for us to have this done twenty-four hours before, we have deemed it necessary to bring the report to you. For that reason I shall call on the Rapporteur of the Committee on Administration, Finance and Legal Matters to read the report to you, that is to read the resolutions one by one in order that we may adopt them as we go along.

The Rapporteur of the Committee on Administration, Finance and Legal Matters.

Mr. SØRENSEN (Denmark), Rapporteur of the Committee on Administration, Finance and Legal Matters: Second report of the Committee on Administration, Finance and Legal Matters:

"The Committee on Administration, Finance and Legal Matters, at its ninth, tenth and eleventh meetings held on 14 and 15 May, adopted the following resolutions for recommendation to the Seventh World Health Assembly:

"1. Sessions of Regional Committees at Regional Headquarters

"The Seventh World Health Assembly,

"Having noted the comments of the regional committees and the recommendation of the Executive Board on the holding of sessions of regional committees at regional headquarters, and

"Considering that, in accordance with Article 48 of the Constitution, regional committees are responsible for determining the place of each meeting,

"RECOMMENDS that, in deciding on the place of their meetings, regional committees should consider holding them from time to time at the site of the regional office, taking into account the costs involved for the Organization and the Member States concerned."

The PRESIDENT: Thank you. Are there any comments on this resolution?

Any objection to our adopting it. As there is none, the resolution is adopted.

Mr. SØRENSEN (Denmark):

2. Payment of Travel Expenses of Representatives to Sessions of Regional Committees

"The Seventh World Health Assembly,

"Having considered resolution EB13.R27 on the payment of travel expenses of representatives to sessions of regional committees,

"1. NOTES that the Executive Board has withdrawn the recommendations on this subject contained in resolution EB11.R50; and

"2. DECIDES that these expenses shall not be reimbursed by WHO."

The PRESIDENT: Thank you Any comment on this resolution? Any objections to our adopting it? If there is none it is adopted

Mr SØRENSEN (Denmark):

3. Place of Eighth World Health Assembly

The Seventh World Health Assembly,

Having noted the resolution of the Executive Board on the invitation of the Government of Mexico to hold the Eighth World Health Assembly, and the session of the Executive Board which follows, in Mexico City, and the subsequent report submitted by the Director-General,

1. EXPRESSES its appreciation of the invitation extended by the Government of Mexico;
2. DECIDES that the Eighth World Health Assembly shall be held in Mexico in 1955; and
3. REQUESTS the Director-General to enter into an appropriate agreement with the Government of Mexico in connexion with the convening of both the Eighth World Health Assembly and the session of the Executive Board which follows, and to report thereon to the Executive Board at its fifteenth session.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you. Any comments? Is there any objection to our adopting this resolution? Before adopting it I would like to make a comment.

It is with deep regret that we note the absence of our dear friend, Dr. Zozaya, the Chief Delegate of Mexico, due to his unfortunate illness. Dr. Zozaya very kindly sent me a message asking me to express to you on his behalf his regret that he has not the privilege of addressing the Assembly personally today. He asks me, on behalf of the Government of the United States of Mexico and on his own behalf, to express his most sincere thanks for the decision just taken by the Assembly to hold the Eighth World Health Assembly in Mexico in 1955. In his message Dr. Zozaya adds that the Mexican Government is deeply appreciative of the honour accorded to its country and

hopes that this decision will serve to make more widely known on the American Continent the efforts of WHO towards the improvement of the health of all the peoples of the world. May I convey to Dr. Zozaya on your behalf the sympathy of the Assembly and its good wishes for his speedy recovery to health? (Applause)

From your applause I take it that we are of one accord in adopting the resolution which has been put forward for the holding of our next Assembly in Mexico City in 1955 and that we thank the Mexican Government for being so gracious and kind as to have invited us to hold our meeting in their country. The resolution is adopted.

Mr. SØRENSEN (Denmark):

4. Status of Collection of Annual Contributions and Advances to the Working Capital Fund

The Seventh World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on arrears of contributions as at 30 April 1954,

Noting that certain Members made no payments on their arrears during 1953,

1. DRAWS to the attention of those Members resolution WHA6.31, inviting their particular attention to the decision which provides "that, if a Member is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization in an amount which equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years at the time of the convening of the World Health Assembly in 1955, the Assembly may consider, in accordance with Article 7 of the Constitution, whether or not the right of vote shall be granted to such a Member";
2. CALLS upon Members to take appropriate action to liquidate their arrears of contributions during 1954; and
3. REQUESTS all Members to provide regularly in their annual budgets for their contributions to the World Health Organization and to pay such contributions as early as possible after 1 January of the year in which they are due.

The PRESIDENT: Any comments on this resolution? Any objection to our adopting it? As there is none, the resolution is adopted.

Mr. SØRENSEN (Denmark):

5. Working Capital Fund for 1955

The Seventh World Health Assembly,:

1. RESOLVES that the Working Capital Fund for the membership of the Organization as at 30 April 1954 be established for 1955 in the amount of US \$3,385,369, plus the assessments of Members joining after 30 April 1954;

2. AUTHORIZES the Director-General;

(1) to advance from the Working Capital Fund such sums as may be necessary to finance the appropriations for the financial year 1955, pending receipt of contributions from Members; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed to the Working Capital Fund as contributions become available;

(2) to advance such sums in 1955 as may be necessary to meet unforeseen or extraordinary expenses, and to increase the relevant Appropriation Section accordingly, provided that not more than US \$250,000 is used for such purposes, except that with the prior concurrence of the Executive Board a total of US \$500,000 may be so used; and

3. REQUESTS the Director-General to report to the next convening Health Assembly all advances made under the authority vested in him to meet unforeseen or extraordinary expenses, and the circumstances relating thereto, and to make provision in the estimates for reimbursement of the Working Capital Fund except when such advances are recoverable from other sources.

The PRESIDENT: Any comments? Any objection to our adopting this resolution?

If there are none, it is adopted.

Mr. SØRENSEN (Denmark):

6. Publications Revolving Fund

The Seventh World Health Assembly,

1. NOTES the report of the Executive Board on the status of the Publications Revolving Fund;

2. NOTES that the Executive Board will consider the status of this fund at its fifteenth session; and

3. REQUESTS the Board to report to the Eighth World Health Assembly on this subject.

The PRESIDENT: Any comments on this resolution? Any objection? None; it is adopted.

Mr. SØRENSEN (Denmark):

7. Special Fund for World Health Seals

The Seventh World Health Assembly,

1. NOTES the report of the Executive Board on the sale of World Health Seals and the status of the fund;

2. NOTES that several countries have not yet reported on their sales for 1953 and prior years;

3. REQUESTS these governments to report their sales and remit the Organization's share of the proceeds; and

4. AUTHORIZES the Director-General to continue the sale of seals to such countries as have requested them for 1955.

The PRESIDENT: Any comments on this resolution? Any objection? None; it is adopted.

Mr. SØRENSEN (Denmark):

8. Rights and Obligations of Associate Members in Regional Committees

The Seventh World Health Assembly,

Having considered the comments of regional committees on the rights and obligations of Associate Members as defined in resolution WHA2.103, which were made in pursuance of resolution WHA6.38, together with the recommendation of the Executive Board that no change in the existing rights and obligations should be made pending further study of this subject,

1. DECIDES to make no change in the rights and obligations of Associate Members at the present time; and
2. REQUESTS the Executive Board to continue its study of this question.

The PRESIDENT: Any comment on this resolution? Objection? If not, it is adopted.

Mr. SØRENSEN (Denmark):

9. Request concerning the Contribution of the Spanish Protectorate Zone in Morocco

The Seventh World Health Assembly,

Having noted the proposals concerning the contribution of the Spanish Protectorate Zone in Morocco,

1. REFERS this question to the Executive Board;
2. REQUESTS the two interested governments to provide the Board with all necessary information as to their respective points of view; and
3. REQUESTS the Executive Board to submit a report on this subject to the Eighth World Health Assembly.

The PRESIDENT: Any comments on this resolution? The delegate of Spain.

M. PALANCA Y MARTINEZ FORTUN (Espagne) : Monsieur le Président, Messieurs les délégués. La Délégation espagnole demande, conformément au Règlement, que l'on vote séparément sur le paragraphe 9 du rapport de la Commission des Questions administratives, financières et juridiques (Document A7/AFL/32) : Requête concernant la Contribution de la zone du Protectorat espagnol au Maroc. Elle regrette infiniment que l'on ajourne à l'année prochaine la fixation de la contribution incombant à la zone du Protectorat espagnol au Maroc du fait qu'elle a assumé toutes les obligations de Membre associé, ainsi qu'il est dit textuellement dans la résolution WHA6.37. C'est pourquoi l'Espagne votera contre le paragraphe 9.

En même temps, les Délégations de l'Espagne et de la zone du Protectorat espagnol au Maroc tiennent à faire la déclaration suivante : Elles protestent formellement et énergiquement contre l'erreur d'impression que l'on a commise en citant ensemble dans le barème des contributions la zone espagnole et la zone française. Cette erreur est démontrée par le fait que la contribution de trois unités fixée en 1952 concernait exclusivement la zone française, comme l'indique clairement la résolution WHA5.55 (pages 21 et 36 des Actes officiels No 42); que, dans le premier barème des contributions pour 1952-53 et 1954 on a indiqué seulement : "Maroc, 3 unités" (Actes officiels No 44); qu'aucune résolution de l'Assemblée n'a autorisé de changement à cet égard; que, lorsqu'en septembre 1953, cette erreur d'impression est apparue pour la première fois dans un relevé comptable, l'Espagne a protesté par lettre du 10 octobre 1953, sans avoir

d'ailleurs obtenu satisfaction jusqu'à ce jour; que, faisant état de la résolution WHA5.16 ainsi que des déclarations officielles du Président de la Cinquième Assemblée Mondiale de la Santé et du délégué de la France (pages 21, 22 et 134 des Actes officiels No 42), le délégué de la zone française a déclaré formellement il y a quatre jours que la mention "Maroc" se rapportait uniquement à la zone française (voir le procès-verbal); et enfin, que la Commission des Questions administratives, financières et juridiques a décidé le 15 de ce mois que la contribution de la zone du Protectorat espagnol au Maroc ferait l'objet d'un rapport du Conseil Exécutif et d'une étude de la prochaine Assemblée.

Par suite, tant que le Conseil Exécutif n'aura pas déposé son rapport et que l'Assemblée n'aura pas pris de décision, il est indispensable de rectifier l'erreur administrative en question et d'indiquer seulement "Maroc, zone française". Maintenir, même par suite d'une erreur d'impression, la zone espagnole dans le barème des contributions serait méconnaître les résolutions de l'Assemblée et essayer d'aller par avance à l'encontre de la décision de la Huitième Assemblée et du rapport du Conseil Exécutif. C'est pourquoi les deux délégations demandent au Président de l'Assemblée de faire rectifier immédiatement cette erreur d'impression, tout au moins tant que le Conseil Exécutif et la prochaine Assemblée n'auront pas pris de décision au sujet de la contribution de la zone du Protectorat espagnol au Maroc.

La Délégation de l'Espagne et celle de la zone du Protectorat espagnol au Maroc laissent au Président le soin d'apprécier, au cas où une simple rectification d'ordre administratif ne suffirait pas, ce qui est improbable puisque l'erreur initiale avait ce caractère, s'il doit les autoriser à présenter une demande formelle de rectification pour qu'elle soit examinée par la présente Assemblée.

Avant de terminer, Monsieur le Président, je voudrais indiquer à propos de ce qui précède que les deux délégations tiennent à attirer de façon amicale mais ferme et énergique l'attention de la Délégation française sur la responsabilité qu'elle assume devant l'histoire en s'opposant aux désirs et aux aspirations légitimes de la population marocaine résidant dans la zone du Protectorat espagnol, lequel, aux termes de la résolution WHA6.37, jouit de tous les droits et assume toutes les obligations de Membre associé. En même temps, la Délégation espagnole insiste auprès de la Délégation française sur le fait qu'en cherchant à participer à la contribution de la zone du Protectorat espagnol, la France agit en violation flagrante de la Convention du 27 novembre 1912, article 8.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you, delegate of Spain. A note will be made of the objection you have raised.

I now call on the delegate of France.

Le Professeur PARISOT (France) : Monsieur le Président, Messieurs les délégués, la Délégation française a apprécié comme il convient les déclarations de l'honorable délégué de l'Espagne. Par déférence à votre égard, Monsieur le Président, et envers mes collègues de l'Assemblée, je bornerai ma réponse aux remarques suivantes :

Premièrement, la Délégation française ne peut considérer qu'il s'agit de la simple rectification d'une erreur matérielle. En réalité, la question évoquée touche aux principes de l'unité de l'Empire chérifien et à son statut réglé par le Traité franco-marocain du 30 mars 1912 et la Convention franco-espagnole du 27 novembre 1912. Vu sous cet angle, il s'agit d'un problème d'ordre politique qui n'est pas de la compétence de cette Assemblée.

Deuxièmement, sur le plan technique et administratif, seul plan sur lequel nous devons nous placer ici, particulièrement en ce qui concerne les contributions, une résolution a été adoptée par votre Commission, renvoyant l'étude de la question au Conseil Exécutif. La Délégation française s'est ralliée à cette proposition. Elle confirme entièrement sa position. En conséquence, la Délégation française formule toutes réserves sur les modifications qui pourraient être apportées à ce projet de résolution et, considérant qu'un débat prolongé à ce sujet ne pourrait que retarder les travaux de cette Assemblée, elle précise qu'elle s'en tiendra strictement à cette déclaration.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you, Professor Parisot. Are there any other comments on this resolution?

As proposed by the delegate of Spain, we shall have to take a vote on this particular question in order that his objection or the objections of others may be registered. Will all those in favour of our adopting this resolution, as contained in the document, please make it known by raising their cards. Thank you. Those against? Thank you. Abstentions? Thank you.

The result of the voting is as follows. Those in favour of the resolution as found in document A7/28, item 9 : 17. Those against : 14. Abstentions : 18. Therefore the resolution is adopted.

Will you continue please, Mr. Sørensen.

Mr. SØRENSEN (Denmark):

10. Arrears of Contributions in respect of the Office International d'Hygiène Publique

The Seventh World Health Assembly

NOTES the report of the Executive Board on action taken by the Committee on Arrears of Contributions in respect of the Office International d'Hygiène Publique.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you. Are there any comments on this resolution.

Any objection to our adopting it?

If there is none, the resolution is adopted. Thank you very much, Mr. Sørensen, for this splendid report of your committee.

4. REPORT ON TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS  
RAPPORT SUR LES DISCUSSIONS TECHNIQUES

The PRESIDENT: We now come to the second item on our agenda, the report on the technical discussions, document A7/Technical Discussions/8. Please bear in mind that

this report only pertains to the technical discussions held this year. It is quite distinct from item 21 of the agenda, which refers to technical discussions in future Health Assemblies.

I now call on the Rapporteur of the technical discussions, Dr. Erickson.

Dr. ERICKSON (United States of America), General Rapporteur of the Technical Discussions: Mr. President and fellow delegates, it is my privilege now to present the report on the technical discussions held at the Seventh World Health Assembly.

The topic for the discussions this year, "Public-health problems in rural areas", was selected by the Sixth World Health Assembly as the subject for technical discussions at this Assembly. Interest in this topic dates back to the Health Organization of the League of Nations.

The Assembly designated Professor A. Stampar as the General Chairman for the technical discussions and Dr. E. Braga, Dr. C.K. Lakshmanan and Dr. J. Heng Liu as the three group chairmen. "Public-health units in rural areas", "Rural sanitation", and "Zoonoses" respectively were chosen for separate discussions by each of the groups. An expert engaged by the Secretariat and a corresponding member of the Secretariat assisted in the discussions. The experts were Professor F. Brockington, Professor M. Petrik and Professor Karl F. Meyer. Dr. C.K. Chu, Mr. R.N. Clark, and Dr. M. Kaplan were the members of the Secretariat who assisted. Dr. H.M. Erickson was elected General Rapporteur, assisted by Dr. T.S. Sze of the Secretariat. Dr. R. Mochtar was elected as Rapporteur for Group B.

The following documents were prepared to serve as a basis for the discussions:

1. "Background to Rural Health" by Professor A. Stampar.

2. "The Development of Health Units in Rural Areas" by Professor F. Brockington.
3. "Rural Sanitation" by Professor M. Petrik.
4. "The Zoonoses in their relation to Rural Health" by Professor K.F. Meyer.
5. "Demographic and Health Statistics relating to Urban and Rural Areas" by Dr. S. Swaroop.

A selected bibliography on rural hygiene was also prepared by the Secretariat.

Six sessions totalling twelve and one-half hours were allotted to the discussions.

The overall attendance was more than one hundred.

The average attendance at each session of the three groups was: Health units, 47; Rural sanitation, 21; and Zoonoses, 21.

The General Chairman, Professor Stampar, in his introductory remarks, reminded participants that the discussions were informal and that persons were here as individuals and not as representatives of their respective countries. He explained that World Health Assemblies have been occupied in the past largely with administrative problems. It was realized that assemblies of public-health administrators from all over the world were rare, and that such occasions should be utilized for technical discussions on subjects of world-wide interest and importance. Thus, since 1951, technical conferences have been arranged. During these discussions a free interchange of views and experiences on a world-wide basis has been facilitated, important information added, and a better insight into matters of a practical nature gained.

Dr. Karl Meyer then briefly introduced the subject of zoonoses. He emphasized the hazard in the environment of disease in animals transmissible to man. He stressed the importance, in the control of diseases, of alert physicians, a central laboratory, a good reporting system and of co-operation between an educated public, the public-health veterinarian, and the local health department.

Professor Petrik emphasized the importance of rural environmental sanitation as a part of a general public-health programme. He outlined the various phases of sanitation and stressed the need for individualizing the programme to the needs of the community and inducing self-aid through instruction and education.

Professor Brockington proclaimed that the world "enjoys bad health when it could have good health". He posed many questions on the development of health services for rural areas to be answered in discussions.

The general discussion brought out the following:

1. The importance of raising general standards of living among the rural population for the improvement of rural health as expounded in Professor Stampar's paper was generally recognized and emphasized.
2. The question of financing rural health programmes was considered of major importance. It was stressed that we should not allow the thought of inadequate finance to depress or deter us. It is better to initiate a well-planned rural health programme, even though limited in scope, utilizing all available resources and to expand it as possible, rather than not to begin at all.
3. We cannot expect a sudden transformation in the improvement of rural health. Progress may seem slow but in retrospect a great deal of progress is generally apparent.
4. The success of programmes can to a great extent be measured in terms of participation and acceptance by the people.
5. Appropriate health education is important. Social scientists may be invaluable in helping to develop suitable techniques for interpretation in various countries.

6. Local public bodies dealing with economic, social, educational and cultural aspects of communal life should be encouraged to integrate health services into the overall programme.

7. The importance of co-operating closely with private physicians and allied health personnel, including midwives, in integrating health services for the rural community was stressed.

8. The question of unequal distribution of medical and allied personnel in urban and rural areas was also emphasized as one of the major obstacles to the improvement of rural health. In some countries compulsion of new graduates to serve in rural areas for a period of one or more years has apparently solved part of the problem. Other methods need to be sought. A sociological study of this problem seems to be indicated.

9. The need to consider the increasing sanitation and health problems of the suburban or "urban fringe areas" was mentioned.

Summaries of the excellent discussions are included in the report which each of you has received. With your permission, Mr. President, I will not read them in detail, but I would invite all delegates to study them if they have not already done so. The report of Group A, Development of health units in rural areas, stresses the necessity for active community support, local financial support, integrating of preventive and curative services, and co-ordination of health work with other social and economic activities in the community. The report of Group B. Rural sanitation, emphasizes the vital importance of environmental sanitation in any programme of national development, water supply, disposal of waste, housing, sanitary handling of food, and control of animal vectors of disease were considered. One statement is

particularly worth quoting at this time because it applies to all phases of public health: "A skilful health department does not need to execute the work alone. It functions best when it acts as a catalytic agent in making the problem clear and stimulating other forces and organizations to do the job". The Group C report, on Zoonoses, stresses the adequate reporting of these diseases both in man and in animal, and the need for co-operation between health and agricultural authorities in education of livestock owners and farmworkers. I would particularly call to your attention the fine chart on Organization of Services and the annex on Recommended notifiable Zoonoses, which are appended to the report of this group. Conclusions and recommendations were adopted by the plenary group and were submitted by Professor Stampar to the general meeting.

In conclusion, Mr. President, if I may add a comment of my own, the primary objective of the technical discussions was to give an opportunity to the public-health experts here from all over the world for free discussion and exchange of information on the important subject of public-health problems in rural areas. The record shows that this result was fully achieved.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you, Dr. Erickson, for the splendid report on the work of the technical discussions which have taken place during the present Assembly.

Is there any member who has a comment to make at this time. If not, I also wish to thank the General Chairman of the technical discussions for having handled those discussions splendidly, as we have come to expect of him, and I would thank those group chairmen who presided over the various sub-committees of the technical discussions. As delegates undoubtedly know, the technical discussions do not form

an integral part of the Health Assembly, and the report which they have just made cannot be adopted as such. We may, however, take note of it. We will, therefore, take note of the excellent report that has been read to us and hope that when delegates return to their various countries they will take into consideration the recommendations made and discussions held during the technical discussions.

As there is nothing else on the agenda, I will thank you for having come, and for having done such splendid work during the past days. We now adjourn.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.  
La séance est levée à 17 h. 55.