COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND LEGAL MATTERS

PROVISIONAL MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING

Palais des Nations, Geneva
Wednesday, 16 May 1956, at 10 a.m.

CHAIRMÁN: Mr W. BOUCHER (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

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Note: Corrections to these provisional minutes should be submitted in writing to the Chief, Records Service, Room A.571, within 48 hours of their distribution.
1. ADOPTION OF DRAFT FIRST REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The CHAIRMAN called on the Rapporteur to present the draft first report of the Committee (A9/AFL/19).

Mr PLEIC, Rapporteur, said that as the report had been distributed 24 hours before the Committee met it was not necessary for him to read the whole of it but there were two points which the Committee had left to be drafted by the Rapporteur and which he would therefore read to the Committee.

The first of these related to the Working Capital Fund and was in section 5 of the report.

The second point related to the last paragraph of the report in which he desired to make a small amendment. In the first line of that paragraph, after the word "Committee", he thought that the words "taking cognizance of the document submitted by the Government of Spain" should be inserted. The paragraph as amended would therefore read:

"The Committee, taking cognizance of the document submitted by the Government of Spain, decided that, Morocco having been admitted to full Membership in the Organization, agenda item 7.14 "Confirmation of resolution WHA6.37 and admission of the Spanish Protectorate Zone in Morocco as an Associate Member" and agenda item 7.17 "Contribution of the Spanish Protectorate Zone in Morocco" no longer had any substance and that it was therefore unnecessary to consider them."

The CHAIRMAN asked whether the delegate of Spain agreed with the proposed amendment.

Mr de VILLEGAS (Spain) said that his delegation fully agreed with the proposed amendment. The paragraph as amended was in line with the request made by his delegation at the third meeting.
The CHAIRMAN asked whether there were any further observations on the draft report.

Decision: The draft report was adopted.

2. SESSIONS OF REGIONAL COMMITTEES OUTSIDE THE REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (continued):
Item 7.9 of the Agenda (Resolution EB17.R42; and Official Records No. 69, Chapter IV, Section 1.2.2; Document A9/AFL/18)

The CHAIRMAN recalled that since the Committee's discussion of the item at the third meeting the delegations of India and the Netherlands had proposed an amendment (document A9/AFL/18) to the resolution recommended by the Executive Board, in its resolution EB17.R42 namely, to delete paragraph 2 of the resolution proposed by the Board and to substitute the following:

2. REQUESTS the Director-General in consultation with the Regional Committees, to study further the question of additional costs to see how far the costs of holding sessions away from regional headquarters can be reduced consistent with efficiency.

Dr AL-WAHHBI (Iraq) said that his delegation wished to be associated with the statements made in the earlier discussion by the delegates of Ireland, Japan and of the United States of America. These statements and the explanation given in the report of the Executive Board (Official Records No. 69, page 27) made the position quite clear. His delegation was concerned with the question of principle and thought that any sharp fluctuation in the expenses of the Organization must necessarily have a deterious affect on the programme. Paragraph 3 of the resolution recommended by the Executive Board in EB17.R42 showed that no interference was proposed with the discretion of the regional committees. Paragraph 2 of the same resolution merely
invited the regional committee to consider whether part of the increased cost might be borne by the host government and did not make it mandatory to impose the costs on that government. His delegation therefore saw no need to change the second paragraph of the resolution proposed by the Executive Board.

At another meeting the delegate of Ireland had remarked that if the Organization could not be considered as an under-developed organization, it was clearly an under-nourished organization. His own delegation thought that no risks should be taken with the funds and therefore supported the original resolution recommended by the Executive Board.

Mr CURRIE (Australia) agreed with what had been said by the delegate from Iraq and by the delegate from Japan in the previous discussion. His delegation preferred the resolution as recommended by the Executive Board.

Sir Arcot MUDALIAR (India) said that if the elaborate and detailed comments of the Executive Board\(^1\) and those made in the present discussion were to be included in the minutes, the position would be clear to regional directors and regional committees, who would not feel that the resolution was mandatory. He was not in a position to withdraw the amendment put forward by his delegation and that of the Netherlands, because Dr van den Berg, his supporter, was not at the meeting.

Miss HESSLING (Netherlands) said that Dr van den Berg was strongly in favour of maintaining the proposed amendment.

Mr CALDERWOOD (United States of America) said that he had hoped that Sir Arcot Mudaliar's suggestion would be accepted. He did not think that there was any question

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\(^1\) Reproduced in the Appendix to these Minutes.
of considering the Executive Board's resolution as mandatory and it had been recognized in the discussions of the Executive Board that this was a question for decision by the regional committees. What the Executive Board had wished to do was to call attention to the procedures that had been followed and to the fact that the host government might be willing to help with the additional cost of holding the regional committee in their country. He did not quite understand why the amendment to the Executive Board resolution called for further study of a subject which had already been very fully considered. A further study would place an unnecessary burden on the Director-General since the regional committees were already aware of the budgetary implications.

The CHAIRMAN asked Dr van den Berg, who was now present, whether he would be willing to consider the question further in view of the suggestion made by Sir Arcot Mudaliar.

Dr van den BERG (Netherlands) apologised that he had not heard the earlier discussion because he had had to attend another committee. He was therefore in a rather difficult position but he understood that the question was whether it would be enough to have the relevant considerations set out in the minutes or whether the resolution of the Executive Board should be amended. He had had a long experience in the World Health Organization and he thought that minutes were not often closely studied. An important question of principle was involved and he would therefore strongly prefer to have an improved resolution and not to rely on the possibility that at some future date persons dealing with the question would read the minutes.
Mr GEERAERTS (Belgium) said that the question of substance was in itself rather difficult. The funds available to the Organization were inadequate for all the programmes that it wished to carry out. They could do nothing to solve that fundamental question, but at least they could consider whether administrative costs might be cut in order to assist programmes. The World Health Assembly should therefore have the right to examine the effect of holding meetings of a regional committee away from the regional headquarters. The resolution proposed by the Executive Board dealt with a question which had been considered for many years. A country whose seat of government was not near the headquarters of the regional committee might find it worth while to accept the additional costs of a meeting held away from regional headquarters for the sake of the advantages that it would derive from such a meeting, and they would of course save on the travelling expenses of their own delegates.

Dr BRADY, Representative of the Executive Board, said that the question had been already studied, and the most recent information was recorded in Official Records No.69, page 110. He could not see that a further study would be helpful. He was puzzled also by the reference in the proposed amendment to efficiency; the Director-General was asked to compare the cost of holding sessions away from regional headquarters with efficiency. He thought that meetings away from headquarters always cost more and were always less efficient and that there could be no doubt as to the result of the study.

Dr van den BERG (Netherlands) disagreed with the suggestion of the representative of the Executive Board that meetings away from regional headquarters always cost more
and were less efficient. That depended on what was taken into account in assessing cost and efficiency. Dr Brady had taken account only of the cost to the Organization's budget. His delegation considered also the cost to Members which was at present distributed very unequally, and had in mind the efficiency not only of the regional committee meetings but of the whole Organization. He thought that that efficiency would be improved if members of regional committees travelled and saw the countries with which their work was concerned.

Sir Arcot MUDALIAR (India) also disagreed with the suggestion that meetings of regional committees away from regional headquarters necessarily cost more and were less efficient. The word "efficiency" had been introduced into the proposed amendment because cost was not the only thing that should be considered. Efficiency, as Dr van den Berg had said, was affected by members travelling to other countries; his experience satisfied him that the efficiency of a regional committee meeting was not less when it was held away from the regional headquarters.

The CHAIRMAN said that it did not seem that discussion was going to reconcile the two points of view and that it would therefore be necessary to vote: first on the draft amendment and secondly on the resolution recommended by the Executive Board.

Sir Arcot MUDALIAR (India) asked whether, if the Executive Board resolution were adopted, the clarification to which he had referred earlier would be included in the minutes.
The CHAIRMAN said the clarification would be so included and called on the Committee to vote.

The Committee voted first on the proposed amendment which was to delete paragraph 2 of the resolution proposed by the Board and to substitute:

"2. REQUESTS the Director-General, in consultation with the regional committees, to study further the question of additional costs, to see how far the costs of holding sessions away from regional headquarters can be reduced consistent with efficiency."

Decision: The amendment was rejected by 36 votes to 6, with 6 abstentions.

The Committee then voted on the resolution proposed by the Executive Board in its resolution EB17.R42.

Decision: The resolution proposed by the Executive Board was approved by 44 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

2. USE OF ARABIC LANGUAGE IN THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN:
   Item 7.10 of the Agenda (Resolution EB17.R10; Official Records No. 59, Chapter IV, Section 1.2.1, page 27; Documents A9/AFL/12, A9/AFL/12 Corr.1; A9/AFL/12 Add.1)

The CHAIRMAN asked the Representative of the Executive Board to open the discussion.

Dr BRADY, Representative of the Executive Board, said that the question had been discussed in the Executive Board from two points of view. First, on the principle of admitting a new language in the procedure of a regional committee, and secondly, as to cost. On the first question, regional committees did in fact use various
languages. In one regional committee there were as many as four; one committee used one language only. In the Region of the Eastern Mediterranean there were nine countries whose language was Arabic and the Regional Committee had thought that it would enhance the efficiency of its work if Arabic were used as a working language in its proceedings. The question had been considered by the Executive Board, which had adopted resolution EB17.R10 supporting, in principle, the suggestion for the use of Arabic as a third working language, subject to budgetary possibilities, and asking the Director-General to submit a report on the matter to the Ninth World Health Assembly.

Dr HAYEK (Lebanon) thanked the Director-General and the Representative of the Executive Board for the adequate and clear material that they had provided for this discussion. The Constitution of the Organization did not specify what should be the official language for a regional committee but in view of Article 49 of the Constitution, some regional committees had exercised a discretion in the matter. In the Regional Committee for the Americas Portuguese was used as a fourth working language. In the Eastern Mediterranean Region Arabic was the language of a considerable number of Member States. If the Organization intended its work to be widely known among the people, it was indispensable to provide for the use of Arabic, as most of the inhabitants of the Region did not know English or French, and the proposed cost seemed to be small. The Regional Committee had therefore recommended the use of Arabic as a third language, and the Executive Board had supported that proposal. The figures given in Annex II to document A9/AFL/12 showed that the total cost for 1957 of the use of a third language in the Regional Committee of the Eastern Mediterranean would be $9600, of which $2030 was non-recurring expenditure.
His delegation therefore would present a resolution based on examination of the resolution of Sub-Committee A of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean and on the resolution EB17.R10 of the Executive Board.

Dr RAMADAN (Egypt) referred to the meeting of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean at which Sub-Committee A had recommended that Arabic should be used as a third working language. That proposal had been supported in principle by the Executive Board. His delegation stressed the importance and usefulness of using Arabic. It was not necessary for him to elaborate all the advantages, but he might mention that the use of Arabic would help to improve medical terminology in that language and that the inhabitants of the Arabic-speaking countries in the Region would have a better knowledge of what was done in the Regional Committee and by the Organization as a whole. For these reasons his delegation supported the proposal. He did not attach great importance to precedents but he would mention that in the General Conference of UNESCO the use of Arabic was authorized and other regional committees made use of languages other than the official languages. The cost, as had been stated, was not serious and in the view of his delegation was outweighed by the advantages of a greater comprehension of the work of WHO in the Region. The provisions for the budget of the Regional Committee could cover the cost. On a point of detail he thought that the resolution put forward by the delegate from Lebanon might be slightly amended to state that Arabic should be used as a third working language in Sub-Committee A of the Regional Committee.
Dr DIBA (Iran) said that at the meeting of Sub-Committee A of the Regional Committee the reasons for the use of Arabic had been enumerated and led to the adoption of a resolution recommending the use of Arabic. They were happy to note that the Executive Board had also supported the proposal in principle. His delegation now supported the resolution proposed by the delegate of Lebanon.

Mr TSEGHE (Ethiopia) did not accept the statement by the delegate from Lebanon that practically all the population of the Eastern Mediterranean Region used Arabic. It was not used in his own country. The delegate from Lebanon had said that the inclusion of Arabic as a third language would help the work of the Regional Office, but the delegation of Ethiopia, although they approved the inclusion of Arabic as a working language, did not approve of the suggestion that there should be three working languages for the Region, especially because the cost of publications in three languages would be high. He proposed therefore that there should be, instead of three, two working languages, but his delegation was not prepared to suggest whether these two should be Arabic and English or Arabic and French.

Mr LAWRENCE (Liberia) supported the proposal for the use of Arabic. It was general knowledge that many persons in the Region used that language and some had no other. As matters were it was not possible for the ordinary person to attend or read about meetings of the Regional Committee and understand what was being done. It was a primary duty of the Organization to do their best to ensure that as many persons as possible should know what WHO was doing and, if Arabic were adopted as a working language, publications which would not ordinarily interest the layman would become better known throughout the Region.
Dr HAYEK (Lebanon) regretted that he found it necessary to correct part of what the delegate from Ethiopia had said. He (Dr Hayek) had not said that most people in the Region used Arabic. He had said that a large number did. As Dr Brady has said, it was the language of nine Member States in the Region. The resolution put forward by his delegation referred to the use of Arabic as a working language.

Mr LIVERAN (Israel) wished to explain the reasons for the resolution put forward by his delegation in document A9/AFL/12 Add.1. In his country the Arabic language had an official status and was used in the work of several institutions. His delegation was therefore concerned to find a suitable method for putting into effect the use of Arabic, as was desired not only by the Regional Committee but by the Executive Board. The sole question was to determine how this could be done by proper constitutional methods. The report provided by the Director-General in document A9/AFL/12 showed that there was no one clear-cut method that had been uniformly adopted, but there was one thing common to all cases. In so far as the question affected a region, the regional committee gave their views, possibly in a recommendation to the Health Assembly. As budgetary considerations were involved, action in the World Health Assembly was also necessary. This, therefore, was not a matter at the sole discretion of one region, but one rather for the World Health Assembly as a whole. For this reason his delegation had presented a draft resolution (document A9/AFL/12 Add.1), the first to be put before the Committee on the subject. It read:

The Ninth World Health Assembly

RESOLVES that the costs incurred by the use of the Arabic language in the activities of the Eastern Mediterranean Region shall be borne by the Organization.
The procedure suggested would enable the Health Assembly to put the question of an additional language on a proper footing and, as the decision would be a decision of the Health Assembly, it seemed proper that it should provide for the cost. The resolution left the costs to be decided at a later stage by the Health Assembly, but the necessary data were set out in the report by the Director-General, to which he had just referred. The Assembly might, in its resolution, limit its decision to the year 1957 and later years.

The Constitution contained no provision in regard to languages except as to their use in the Health Assembly and the Executive Board or by implication, as the delegate of Lebanon had suggested, in the regional committees. What other use might be made of different languages was not a matter of official concern. The resolution of his delegation was intended to clarify the legal procedure so that there might be no doubt as to the position. The Chairman himself, in another meeting, had said that nothing should be done in respect of the Constitution unless the proposal had been properly studied. No action should be taken, therefore, which did not conform to the principles of the Constitution, and his delegation thought that his resolution provided for that.

The CHAIRMAN said that the topic before the Committee was interesting and important. They had a proposal by the delegate of Lebanon, an amendment to that proposal from the delegate from Egypt, a proposal from the delegate of Israel, and an amendment from the delegate from Ethiopia to the Lebanon proposal. He thought that in the circumstances the Committee should have these various proposals before them in writing before they proceeded to a decision. As some other members wished to speak, the discussion might continue on general lines until the proposals were available in writing.
Dr H.YEK (Lebanon), in order to simplify consideration of the item, accepted the amendment to his proposal suggested by the delegate from Egypt.

Mr KHANACHET (Saudi Arabia) said he had understood from the debate that morning that a constitutional point was involved. The constitutionality of the regional organization in the Eastern Mediterranean Region was well defined and its relations to the World Health Assembly were clear. He hoped, therefore, that in the present discussion no constitutional question affecting the organization of the Eastern Mediterranean would be raised.

Mr SAITA (Japan) said that his delegation, after studying the documents and hearing the speakers, was ready to support the proposals for a third working language in the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean. The Health Assembly would be glad to see the work of the Regional Committee expedited and a more effective part in its work taken by all countries in the Region. His delegation would therefore support the proposal.

His delegation, however, had one question as to finance. On page 2 of the Director-General's report in document A9/AFL/12, there was in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 a statement of the provision that would be necessary to give effect to the proposal, and on page 6 of the same document there was an estimate of the cost in salaries and wages of providing for the use of Arabic. The amount of $1050 was provided and this seemed low. He asked whether the Secretariat was satisfied that this provision would be sufficient.

Mr SIEGEL (Assistant Director-General, Department of Administration and Finance), Secretary, said that the figures quoted on page 6 were their best estimates of the
cost of providing for the use of Arabic as a third working language in the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean. The estimate was based on the experience in other places of the staff and equipment required for the use of three languages.

Mr SAITA (Japan) thanked Mr Siegel and said he was satisfied.

Mr CALDERWOOD (United States of America) supported the proposal for the use of the Arabic language in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

The CHAIRMAN said that as the various proposals would not be available in writing before the meeting rose, he proposed to postpone further consideration of the item until the next meeting.

4. REPORT ON CO-ORDINATION WITH AND DECISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL QUESTIONS: Item 7.25 of the Agenda (Official Records No. 68, Annex 20)

The CHAIRMAN asked the Representative of the Executive Board to introduce the item.

Dr BRADY, Representative of the Executive Board, said that the Board had studied the document and taken note of it without raising any particular issues. It might therefore be more appropriate if the representative of the Director-General introduced the item.

The SECRETARY said that the Director-General considered co-ordination in administrative and budgetary practices between the family of the United Nations organizations to be extremely important. The developments which had taken place
with respect to co-ordination in administrative and budgetary matters had been reported to the Executive Board at its seventeenth session; a report of the proceedings was contained in Official Records No. 68, Annex 20, (page 164).

Two additional developments which had taken place since might interest the Committee. In his general report made at the Committee's first meeting, he had referred to the establishment by the United Nations General Assembly of a committee for the purpose of reviewing and studying general salaries, allowances and other benefits for international civil servants. This committee would study the problems and practices of the specialized agencies as well as those of the United Nations.

The second development was related to the discussion which had taken place at the Eighth World Health Assembly in Mexico City on a request of the United Nations General Assembly that the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions might be invited to study the specialized agencies at their own headquarters. Subsequently the Director-General had communicated with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and invited the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to visit the Headquarters of the World Health Organization for the purpose of considering together with the Director-General the problems of the Organization and the ways in which the administrative and financial policies were carried out. The Advisory Committee had replied that while it could not accept the invitation for 1955 when it was already committed to visit two other specialized agencies, it would visit the Headquarters of the World Health Organization some time in 1957.

Mr BOTHA (Union of South Africa) appreciated Mr Siegel's statement which confirmed the intention of the World Health Organization to co-operate with the United Nations and other specialized agencies.
Mr LEVAN (Israel) thanked Mr Siegel particularly for having referred to the discussions which had taken place in Mexico City. He was grateful to hear of the subsequent developments which seemed to have been in complete accordance with the wishes expressed by the United Nations General Assembly the previous year and also to have found wholehearted acceptance by all the organs of the World Health Assembly.

His delegation was gratified to find that as a result of a desire shared by two international organizations, co-operation could be made to work smoothly and produce proper results, if attention was paid by the relevant organs of both bodies to discovering ways and means of implementing the resolutions by which one organization addressed itself to the other. This was particularly important because the need for co-operation was likely to increase in the future and more organizations would require to co-operate. As a beginning, therefore, the Director-General's report was significant not only to the World Health Organization but to the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

Mr CLARK (Canada), while welcoming the Director-General's declaration of his desire to co-operate with the United Nations and other specialized agencies, welcomed even more the tangible evidence which the Director-General had given of his intentions by inviting the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to study the World Health Organization. That Committee, composed of highly qualified experts, many of whom had served for a number of years, was most useful to Member States in reviewing the budget of the United Nations. His delegation was awaiting its findings on the operations of the World Health Organization with keen anticipation.
Mr HELBYE (Norway) supported the views expressed by the delegates of the Union of South Africa, Israel and Canada.

Mr COOTE (United States of America) commended the Director-General for his co-operation with the United Nations and other specialized agencies in the important field of administrative, financial and budgetary questions, and considered this activity to be mutually beneficial to the organizations concerned. Participation by the World Health Organization and other specialized agencies in the work of the committee that was to study the system of salaries and allowances would be very advantageous.

The SECRETARY said that in view of the comments just made, it might interest the Committee to learn that the expert committee, which was a committee of governments and which had been established to review the system of salaries, allowances and other benefits had already begun its session in New York. At its seventeenth session the Executive Board had adopted a resolution in which it specifically invited the committee to come to Genova to study the needs, problems of the Organization and the possible solutions which it was considering. The Committee would be coming to Genova at the end of May.

The CHAIRMAN suggested to the Committee that it might wish to consider approving a resolution on the following lines:

"The Ninth World Health Assembly,

1. NOTES the report of the Director-General on co-ordination with the United Nations and the specialized agencies on administrative and financial matters;

2. CONDONS the Director-General for his efforts to continue the satisfactory progress in administrative and budgetary co-ordination and co-operation with the United Nations and with other specialized agencies.

Decision: The draft resolution proposed by the Chairman was approved unanimously."
5. CORRECTION OF FRENCH AND SPANISH TEXTS OF RESOLUTION WHA1.133: Item 1 of the Supplementary Agenda (Document A9/AFL/5)

The CHAIRMAN asked the Deputy Director-General to introduce the item.

Dr DOROLLE, Deputy Director-General, said that this was a linguistic point of detail. The English text of resolution WHA1.133 correctly described the emblem of the Organization as an Aesculapian staff and serpent. In the French text the word "caduceus" had been substituted for the words "Aesculapian staff and serpent". The emblem described in the French text was not really that of the World Health Organization. The Committee was therefore asked to take the necessary action to rectify the French text, and also the Spanish text which was translated from the French.

Mr FOESSEL (France) and Mr de VILLEGAS (Spain) supported the resolution in document A9/AFL/5.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether the Committee would agree to leave the matter in the hands of the Rapporteur.

Mr LIVERAN (Israel) said the object of the changes should be to ensure that the symbol of the Organization should be described in identical terms irrespective of the language used. The Committee welcomed the initiative taken to bring this about.

Dr HAYEK (Lebanon) proposed that the Committee simply adopt the resolution contained in document A9/AFL/5.

After a short discussion on procedure the Committee approved the resolution contained in document A9/AFL/5.
6. SPECIAL FUND FOR IMPROVING NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES (REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUNFED): Item 7.9 of the Agenda (Resolution WHA8.21; Document A9/AFL/4 Rev.1)

The CHAIRMAN asked the Deputy Director-General to introduce the item.

The DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL drew the attention of the Committee to document A9/AFL/4 Rev.1 which contained, according to the wishes expressed at the Eighth World Health Assembly, a report on the developments related to the establishment of SUNFED. Without wishing to take up more of the Committee's time he was willing to answer any questions which might arise.

Mr JOCKEL (Australia) considered that in 1956 the Committee was considering largely a procedural stage in the development of the Fund and he would limit his remarks to that aspect although he reserved his right to return to questions of substance later if any were raised.

The Committee was now faced with an interim situation. On the one hand there was the resolution which had been adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at the tenth session (reproduced in Annex V of document A9/AFL/4 Rev.1) - a carefully balanced resolution on an important issue which established machinery for further examination of a special United Nations Fund for Economic Development and also provided a time-table for the future. On the other hand, as a result of the resolution adopted at the Eighth World Health Assembly, the World Health Organization had been able to establish its legitimate interest in this matter.

Therefore at the present stage the Committee might wish to approve a resolution which noted the report of the Director-General and asked him to report again at the Tenth World Health Assembly. A note might be added expressing satisfaction with
the action taken by the Director-General in informing the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the point of view of WHO with regard to the Fund.

Dr van den BERG (Netherlands) agreed with the last speaker.

Dr KAHAWITA (Ceylon) recalled that the question had arisen at the Eighth World Health Assembly as a result of a resolution introduced by his delegation for the creation of a special fund to help health services in under-developed areas. It had then been pointed out that the establishment of a special fund was being considered by the United Nations to serve the same purpose, and his delegation had agreed to postpone consideration of the item it had proposed pending further information on the development of a United Nations Fund. In view of the Director-General's report, on the action being taken by the United Nations in the matter, his delegation would support the proposal of the delegation of Australia.

Mr LIVERAN (Israel) also agreed with the delegate of Australia. The ad hoc Committee envisaged in the United Nations resolution had just met in New York where it had considered comments submitted by various governments.

If the Committee adopted a resolution on the lines suggested by the Australian delegate it would be clear that the Organization would continue to keep its Members informed of any subsequent developments which might take place in the United Nations with regard to the proposed establishment of a Special Fund for Economic Development.

The DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that the delegate of Australia and his supporters, expressing their satisfaction with the statement made by the Secretariat on behalf of the Organization had clearly outlined the course of action which the Committee would
take. In this connexion the Health Assembly itself should, perhaps, once more reiterate the Organization's interest in the development of SUNFED. Everybody was aware that one of the major obstacles to the development of health services in most of the under-developed countries was the absence of capital investment. Advice alone and technical assistance were not enough. The Committee might therefore wish to support the idea of international co-operation in the field of capital investment. It might also wish to recall that the Organization had considered it necessary to establish a special fund for the eradication of malaria, which although this did not involve capital investment, was a step in the direction of more assistance to under-developed countries.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Rapporteur should present at the following meeting a draft resolution taking into account the trend of the discussion and the comments of the delegate of Australia and his supporters.

Mr COOTE (United States of America) agreed with the Chairman's proposal.

Dr van den BERG (Netherlands) doubted whether there really was complete agreement between the views expressed by the delegate of Australia and the Deputy Director-General. He therefore asked the Deputy Director-General to restate his point of view.

The DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that while finding himself in complete agreement with the proposed procedure he thought it might be better if the resolution did not merely take note of the developments but re-affirmed the interests of the Organization in the establishment of a fund which would permit the necessary capital investment for public health services.
Dr van den BERG (Netherlands) supported the Deputy Director-General's suggestion.

Mr CURRIE (Australia) considered that it would not be difficult to draw up a resolution taking into account the views expressed by the Deputy Director-General.

Sir Arcot MUDALIAR (India) said that the resolution should reiterate the views expressed in resolution WHA8.21, note with pleasure the correspondence which had taken place between the Director-General and the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the subject and state that the Organization awaited with interest the result of the activities of the Committee which was now examining the question on behalf of the United Nations; the resolution should also request the Director-General to proceed with the matter and to present a report to the Tenth World Health Assembly. The resolution should make it very clear that the Committee continued to be interested in a special fund for economic development on the lines indicated, that it wanted the Director-General to report fully on the fund, to describe its scope and the share that WHO would have in some of its activities once the fund was organized.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Rapporteur should be invited to draw up a draft resolution on the lines of the discussion.

Mr PLEIC, Rapporteur, asked whether the delegates of Australia, the Netherlands and India would be willing to assist him on the preparation of the draft resolution.

It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 12.05 p.m.
1.1.3.3 A member asked if the additional expenditure incurred when a session of a regional committee was held away from the regional headquarters was not met by the host government. The Director-General informed the Committee that the arrangements made for such sessions varied from region to region and that this matter had been carefully considered by the regional committees. One region had decided upon arrangements such as those referred to by the member, but the others had differing practices. The Committee recalled that Article 48 of the Constitution provides "that regional committees ... shall determine the place of each meeting" and that in resolution WHA7.26 the Seventh World Health Assembly had recommended that "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 Committee noted also that some of the regional committees had adopted resolutions concerning the responsibilities of host governments in respect of their respective regional committee meetings. Other regional committees had left it to the regional offices to make ad hoc arrangements with the host governments. Under these arrangements the host governments have usually provided free office space, local transportation, and in some cases clerical assistance, but have not met the entire extra costs involved in holding meetings away from the site of the regional office.

1.1.3.4 The Committee also had before it a schedule showing the places of regional committee meetings together with the costs incurred from the inception of the Organization through 1954, and the places and estimated costs of such meetings in the years 1955, 1956 and 1957 (Appendix II).

1.1.3.5 Considering that it was desirable, from a budgetary point of view, that regional committees should determine the places of their meetings two years in advance and that host governments should participate more fully in meeting the additional expenditure entailed in holding meetings away from the site of the regional office, the Committee decided to suggest to the Executive Board that it recommend to the Ninth World Health Assembly the adoption of a resolution drawing attention to those budgetary considerations.