

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

الرئيسة العالمية
المكتب الإقليمي لشرق البحر الأبيض

ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE LA
MÉDITERRANÉE ORIENTALE

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

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Eighth Session

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Sub-Committee B

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE B
OF THE
EIGHTH SESSION
OF THE
REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

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PART I

INTRODUCTION

1. GENERAL

Sub-Committee B of the eighth session of the Regional Committee met at the World Health Organization Headquarters, Geneva, from 22-25 September 1958. Five plenary meetings were held and the Sub-Division on Programme met twice. The morning of the last day was devoted to Technical Discussions on Bilharziasis and its Control.

The following States were represented:

Ethiopia
France
Iran
Israel
Italy
United Kingdom.

The United Nations was represented by the Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs. Representatives from the International Conference of Social Work, the International Council of Nurses and the World Medical Association were also present; the Rockefeller Foundation was represented by an observer.

2. OPENING OF THE SESSION (Agenda items 1 and 2)

The Regional Director, Dr. A. H. Taba, acting as Chairman, opened the first meeting of Sub-Committee B and welcomed all present. Dr. P. Dorolle, Deputy Director-General, representing the Director-General, expressed gratification that, with the convening of both Sub-Committees A and B this year, the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean would function normally under the provisions of resolution WHA7.33, and for the first time the Director-General would be able to present a report to the Executive Board harmonizing the decisions of the two Sub-Committees.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS (Agenda item 3)

The Sub-Committee elected its officers as follows:

<u>Chairman</u>	Dr. M. Faris (Iran)
<u>Vice-Chairman</u>	Mr. J. Tseghe (Ethiopia)

4. APPOINTMENT OF SUB-DIVISION ON PROGRAMME (Agenda item 7)

The Sub-Committee appointed a Sub-Division on Programme under the Chairmanship of Professor G. A. Canaperia (Italy).

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Document EM/RC8B/1, Agenda item 5)

The agenda was adopted (resolution EM/RC8B/R.1) with the understanding that agenda items 13 and 14 would be referred to the Sub-Division on Programme.

6. ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE (RC4/EM/12 and Add.1; RC4/EM/12/Rev.2, Sub-Committee A).

The rules of procedure as adopted by Sub-Committee A at the seventh session of the Regional Committee on 23 September 1957 (document RC4/EM/12 Rev.2) were adopted as the Rules of Procedure for Sub-Committee B. (Resolution EM/RC8B/R.2; document EM/RC8B/2.)

PART II

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR TO THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE
(Agenda item 8; document EM/RC8/2)

The following main points emerged from the discussion of the Report of the Regional Director which covered the period 1 July 1957 to 30 June 1958:

- a) Education and training within the Region should be increased and the fellowships programme should be strengthened to the greatest extent possible.
- b) Health education of the public should be emphasized.
- c) Nutrition programmes were of utmost importance and should be supported.
- d) Data on poliomyelitis should be included in the Weekly Epidemiological Bulletin of the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office.

The Sub-Committee adopted resolution EM/RC8B/R.3 on the Report of the Regional Director.

PART III

REPORT OF THE SUB-DIVISION ON PROGRAMME
(Agenda item 15)

The following Report of the Sub-Division on Programme was adopted by the Sub-Committee (resolution EM/RC8B/R.14), together with the pertinent resolutions (EM/RC8B/R.8, /9, /10, /11, /12, /13):

"The Sub-Division on Programme, comprising Sub-Committee B as a whole, was established under the Chairmanship of Professor G. A. Canaperia (Italy). The proposed programme and budget estimates for 1960 for the Eastern Mediterranean Region, and Technical Matters, were referred to the Sub-Division by Sub-Committee B. The Sub-Division met on Monday 22 September and Tuesday 23 September 1958."

1. PROPOSED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1960 FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION (Agenda item 13, document EM/RC8/3)

The Sub-Division expressed general approval of the country and inter-country programmes. An increase in allotments in all the fields considered of greatest importance was noted with satisfaction. The relatively low amount for nutrition projects which were considered to be of high priority was explained by the fact that WHO projects in this field were undertaken jointly with UNICEF or FAO, and therefore the amount shown as WHO's commitment was only part of the total expenditure contemplated. Furthermore, with the appointment of the Regional Adviser on Nutrition, more nutrition programmes could be planned.

The project for assistance to regional institutes (EMRO 49) was at the experimental stage and the estimated expenditure was supplementary to Head-quarter's contribution; it was intended for applied rather than basic research, and for subjects of predominantly Regional interest.

Upon request, a summary of the allotments from the regular budget for the six regional offices was given by the Secretariat for the years 1957, 1958 and 1959, with a tentative figure on which the 1960 budget for the Regional Office was based. Proportions were set according to the needs of the various regions, and on experience of previous years.

The Sub-Division on Programme approved the proposed programme and budget estimates for 1960.

2. TECHNICAL MATTERS (agenda item 14; documents EM/RC8/4 and Add.1, EM/RC8/5 and Add.1, EM/RC8/6, /7 and /8)

Five technical papers on the following subjects were submitted by the Regional Director to the Sub-Division on Programme:

- a) Antimalaria programmes in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.
- b) Smallpox Control.
- c) Drug Addiction.
- d) WHO-Assisted Tuberculosis Control Programmes.
- e) Vital and Health Statistics Services in the countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

The Sub-Division discussed each item at some length, and it was agreed that although progress had been made, additional effort was required in all the fields reviewed and continued WHO assistance was recommended."

See Annex III for summary of discussions.

PART IV

TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS

1. BILHARZIASIS AND ITS CONTROL (Agenda item 16; documents EM/RC8/Tech.Disc/1-7)

The Technical Discussions on Bilharziasis and its Control were held on 25 September 1958. Dr. Btsh (Israel) was appointed Chairman and also acted as Rapporteur. The following papers formed the basis for the Discussions:

"Bilharziasis in the Eastern Mediterranean Region"

"Special Needs for Further Laboratory and Field Research to Improve Bilharziasis Control Methods in the Middle East", by Dr. Willard H. Wright

"Study of Water Flow Velocities in Irrigation Canals in Iraq and their Mathematical Analysis", by Joaquin de Araoz, C.E., M.S.S.E.

"The Engineering Aspects of Bilharziasis Control", by Joseph N. Lanoix, C.E., M.S.S.E. and John O. Buxell, M.S., M.P.H.

"A Small Treatment Plant for Supplying Rural Communities with Water from Irrigation Canals", by Joaquin de Araoz, C.E., M.S.S.E.

"Bilharziasis Control Problems in Iraq", by Dr. A. Hamami, Dr. G. Klint and Dr. H. Najarian

The Sub-Committee, after considerable discussion, adopted a resolution on Bilharziasis and its Control (EM/RC8B/R.17).

For the summary technical report on the Discussions see Annex IV.

2. TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS OF SUB-COMMITTEE B AT NINTH SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE (Agenda item 18)

It was decided that poliomyelitis would be the subject of the Technical Discussions of Sub-Committee B at the 1959 Session (resolution EM/RC8B/R.18).

PART V

OTHER MATTERS

1. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES (Agenda item 10)

The Report of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (EM/RC8/13) was considered and the Sub-Committee adopted a resolution on the work of the Agency (EM/RC8B/R.4).

2. RESOLUTIONS OF REGIONAL INTEREST PASSED BY THE ELEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY AND BY THE TWENTY-FIRST AND TWENTY-SECOND SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD (Agenda item 12; documents EM/RC8/11, EM/RC8/4 Add.1; /5 Add.1, /9, /12)

The Sub-Committee, after studying the papers submitted by the Regional Director on "Review of Salaries, Allowances and Benefits" (EM/RC8/9) and "Review and Appraisal of WHO Fellowships" (EM/RC8/12), and all the resolutions of regional interest presented, adopted resolutions EM/RC8B/R.7, EM/RC8B/R.5 and EM/RC8B/R.6.

3. PLACE OF NINTH AND TENTH SESSIONS OF REGIONAL COMMITTEE (SUB-COMMITTEE B) (Agenda item 17)

Sub-Committee B decided to postpone decision on this item (see resolution EM/RC8B/R.16).

4. REPRESENTATIVE OF SUB-COMMITTEE B (RULE 47 OF RULES OF PROCEDURE) (Agenda item 18)

In accordance with the provisions of the resolution (EM/RC8B/R.15) adopted by Sub-Committee B, Dr. Faris (Iran), as Chairman of the Sub-Committee, became representative elect of Sub-Committee B; in the case of his not being available, Mr. Tseghe (Ethiopia), as Vice-Chairman, would represent the Sub-Committee.

5. RIGHT OF VOTE

For the current session of the Regional Committee the Governments of Ethiopia, France, Iran, Italy and the United Kingdom reserved their right to vote in Sub-Committee A; the Government of Israel exercised its right of vote in Sub-Committee B.

The Representative of France stated that his delegation had been very happy to have had the opportunity of attending Sub-Committee B and of taking an active part in its deliberations. In view of the special circumstances in which Sub-Committee B had met, his delegation considered it advisable this year to wait for the meeting of Sub-Committee A in order to exercise its right of vote in full knowledge of the agenda items under consideration.

The Representatives of the United Kingdom and of Italy associated themselves with this statement.

This statement appears in the Minutes (EM/RC8B/Min/4) as requested by the Representative of France.

6. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT (Agenda item 19)

The report was adopted (resolution EM/RC8B/R.19).

PART VI

RESOLUTIONS

In the course of its plenary sessions, Sub-Committee B adopted the following resolutions:

EM/RC8B/R.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Sub-Committee,

ADOPTS the provisional agenda as revised (EM/RC8B/1).

EM/RC8B/R.2 ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Sub-Committee,

Having considered the draft Rules of Procedure submitted by the Regional Director in accordance with the provisions of resolution WHA7.33,

ADOPTS the Rules of Procedure attached hereto (EM/RC8B/2).

EM/RC8B/R.3 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The Sub-Committee,

Having considered the report of the Regional Director covering the twelve-month period 1 July 1957 to 30 June 1958 (EM/RC8/2),

1. NOTES with satisfaction the steady progress achieved particularly in the fields of education and training and in the control and eradication of communicable diseases;

2. NOTES with approval that, with the strengthening of national health services, a greater number of inter-country and inter-regional programmes are being undertaken to assist in the development of these services and to facilitate the much-needed co-ordination of activities between Member States of the Region;

3. COMMENDS the Regional Director for his comprehensive report on the work accomplished;
4. REQUESTS the Regional Director to continue to strengthen his efforts along the lines followed during the period under review;
5. ADOPTS the report as presented.

EM/RC8B/R.4 UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES

The Sub-Committee,

Having studied with interest the report of the Chief, Health Division, on the health services carried out by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (EM/RC8/13),

PAYS TRIBUTE to the devoted service of Mr. Henry Richardson-Labouisse in the cause of these refugees during his four years as Director of the Agency,

THANKS UNRWA for its valuable work in caring for the health and welfare of the Palestine refugees.

EM/RC8B/R.5 REVIEW OF SALARIES, ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS

The Sub-Committee,

Having studied the document (EM/RC8/9) submitted by the Regional Director drawing attention to resolution WHA10.49 of the Tenth World Health Assembly and to resolution EB21.R53 adopted at the Twenty-first Session of the Executive Board;

Bearing in mind the existing provisions of Article 36 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization and of the Staff Regulations, 3.2;

Noting the Regional Director's invitation to express, for consideration by the Board, any comments it may have on the subject of salaries, allowances and benefits of internationally recruited staff;

Considering the importance of a well-balanced system of salaries, allowances and benefits to further the aims of the Organization;

1. STRESSES the importance to a global health organization of a uniform system of salaries and allowances for all staff in all locations;
2. BELIEVES that an adequate system of salaries, allowances and benefits is one of the essential conditions for an international health organization to attract and retain highly qualified staff;
3. RECOMMENDS the provision of a uniform as well as an adequate system of salaries and allowances in view of the necessity of rotating professional staff between various assignments and locations;
4. EMPHASIZES the need of a simple system of salaries and allowances both as regards administration and understanding in view of the widely dispersed location of the Organization's decentralized staff, with due safeguards for the requirements of equity, and the particular needs of the individual staff member;
5. REQUESTS the Regional Director to transmit the Committee's views to the Director-General for inclusion in his report to the Twenty-third Session of the Executive Board.