

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR
SOUTH-EAST ASIA

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Forty-eighth Session

Provisional Agenda item 18.1

SEA/RC48/5

12 June 1995

REGIONAL COMMITTEE DOCUMENT

**UNDP/WORLD BANK/WHO SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND
TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES - REPORT ON THE JOINT
COORDINATING BOARD (JCB) SESSION AND NOMINATION
OF A MEMBER TO THE BOARD IN PLACE OF NEPAL
WHOSE TERM EXPIRES ON 31 DECEMBER 1995**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) has been set up under the administrative aegis of the World Health Organization (WHO) and is cosponsored by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank.

The Special Programme, which is a long-term endeavour, has two principal goals:

- (1) *To develop new methods of preventing, diagnosing and treating selected tropical diseases, methods that would be applicable, acceptable and affordable by developing countries, require minimal skills or supervision and be readily integrated into the health services of these countries, and*
- (2) *To strengthen – through training in biomedical and social sciences and through support to institutions – the capability of developing countries to undertake the research required to develop these new disease control technologies.*

2. JOINT COORDINATING BOARD

For the purpose of coordinating the interests and responsibilities of the parties cooperating in this Special Programme, a Joint Coordinating Board (JCB) has been established.

2.1 Functions

The JCB shall, for the purpose of coordinating the interests and responsibilities of the parties cooperating in the Special Programme, have the following functions:

- (1) Review and decide upon the planning and execution of the Special Programme. For this purpose, it will keep itself informed of all aspects of the development of the Special Programme, and consider reports and recommendations submitted to it by the Standing Committee, the Executing Agency, and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC);
- (2) Approve the proposed plan of action and budget for the coming financial period, prepared by the Executive Agency and reviewed by the Standing Committee;
- (3) Review the proposals of the Standing Committee and approve arrangements for the financing of the Special Programme in that period;

- (4) Review proposed longer-term plans of action and their financial implications;
- (5) Review the annual financial statements submitted by the Executing Agency as well as the audit report thereon, submitted by the External Auditor of the Executing Agency;
- (6) Review periodic reports which evaluate the progress of the Special Programme towards the achievement of its objectives;
- (7) Endorse the proposals of the Executing Agency and the Standing Committee for STAC membership, and
- (8) Consider such other matters relating to the Special Programme as may be referred to it by any Cooperating Party.

2.2 Composition

The JCB shall consist of 30 members from among the Cooperating Parties as follows:

- (1) Twelve government representatives selected by the contributors to the Special Programme resources;
- (2) Twelve government representatives selected by the WHO regional committees from among those countries directly affected by the diseases dealt with by the Special Programme, or from among those providing technical or scientific support to the Special Programme;
- (3) Three members, designated by the JCB itself, from among the remaining Cooperating Parties, and
- (4) The three Agencies which comprise the Standing Committee.

Members of the JCB shall serve for a period of three years and may be reappointed.

Other Cooperating Parties may, at their request, be represented as observers upon approval by the JCB.

3. ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

3.1 Report on JCB Session

The Regional Committee, at its thirty-fourth session in 1981, recommended that the JCB members selected by it should report to the Regional Committee giving a summary of the deliberations of the last JCB session attended by them. As such, the delegates from Nepal and/or India are expected to report on the deliberations of JCB-18 held on 4 and 5 July 1995 in Luxembourg.

3.2 Membership from the South-East Asia Region under Paragraph 2.2 (2)

Country	Period	Selected by	Paragraph of the Memorandum of Understanding under which selected
India	1978 to 1979	Regional Committee	2.2.2
	1980 to 1982	Contributors	2.2.1
	1983 to 1985	Regional Committee	2.2.2
	1986 to 1988	Regional Committee	2.2.2
	1989 to 1991	JCB	2.2.3
	1985 to 1997	<i>Regional Committee</i>	2.2.2
Indonesia	1980 to 1982	Regional Committee	2.2.2
	1989 to 1991	Regional Committee	2.2.2
Myanmar	1978 to 1980	Regional Committee	2.2.2
	1984 to 1986	Regional Committee	2.2.2
	1990 to 1992	<i>Regional Committee</i>	2.2.2
Sri Lanka	1987 to 1989	Regional Committee	2.2.2
Thailand	1981 to 1983	Regional Committee	2.2.2
	1984 to 1986	JCB	2.2.3
	1992 to 1994	Regional Committee	2.2.2
Nepal	1993 to 1995	Regional Committee	2.2.2
Bangladesh	1994 to 1996	JCB	2.2.3

At present, the two Member Countries from the South-East Asia Region that are members of the JCB are Nepal and India. As the term of office of Nepal will expire on 31 December 1995, the Regional Committee may select, in this session, a country from this region for representation on the JCB for a period of three years commencing 1 January 1996.

In selecting a Member Country, the Regional Committee may keep in view the criteria for selection, namely, that the country selected should be directly affected by the diseases dealt with by the Special Programme, or from among those Member Countries providing technical or scientific support to the Special Programme.

In the South-East Asia Region, Bhutan, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand conform to the criteria for selection and are eligible for consideration at the Forty-eighth session of the Regional Committee. Bangladesh and India have not been included since they continue to be members of the JCB up to 31 December 1996 and 1997 under paragraphs 2.2 (3) and 2.2 (2) respectively. DPR Korea is not affected by any of the six diseases of concern to the Special Programme.