

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

FOURTEENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTE

AL4/AFL/Min/5
15 February 1961

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND LEGAL MATTERS

PROVISIONAL MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi
Wednesday, 15 February 1961, at 4.30 p. m.

CHAIRMAN: Dr R. VANNUGLI (Italy)

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1. Supplementary budget estimates for 1961	2
2. Malaria Eradication Special Account	4
3. Decisions of the United Nations, specialized agencies and IAEA affecting WHO's activities on administrative and financial questions	7

Note: Corrections to these provisional minutes should be submitted in writing to the Chief, Records Service, Room 355A, within 48 hours of their distribution.

The CHAIRMAN said that he appreciated the honour which had been done to his country, his delegation and himself personally in his election as vice-chairman of the Committee. He called on the Secretary of the Committee to indicate the programme of work for the meeting.

Mr SIEGEL, Assistant Director-General, Secretary, said that it would be desirable that the Committee should complete its discussions and take a decision regarding item 3.4 of the agenda and should implement in an appropriate fashion the decisions just reached at the joint meeting of the two main committees regarding item 3.16 of the agenda. A second report of the Committee could then be prepared for consideration by the Committee early the following morning so that it might be approved for submission to the plenary session.

It was so agreed.

1. SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1961: Item 3.4 of the Agenda (resolution EB26.R11; document Al4/AFL/5 Rev.1 (continued))

The SECRETARY said that in view of the decision just taken in the joint meeting of the committees, the Committee need only decide whether or not to approve the sum of \$ 621 754 as the administrative and operational services costs of the planned malaria eradication programme.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should also decide whether or not to approve the sum of \$ 107 250 for assistance to the Republic of the Congo (Leopoldville).

The SECRETARY said that the estimates for this latter item had been submitted by the Director-General to the Executive Board, had been transmitted by the Board in its report to the Health Assembly and had been approved as a component part of the report.

There being no comments, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the draft resolution contained in paragraph 3.2 of document A14/AFL/5 Rev.1.

The SECRETARY drew attention to four amendments to the figures as given in the draft resolution in that document: under Appropriation Section 2, and the total for Part I, the figure should read \$ 7090; the total Parts I, II, and III should read \$ 805 094; and the last figure in paragraph 3 should read \$ 759 385.

The resolution, as amended, read:

The Fourteenth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the proposals of the Director-General and the recommendations of the Executive Board on supplementary budget estimates for 1961.

1. APPROVES the Supplementary Estimates for 1961; and
2. DECIDES to amend the Appropriation Resolution for 1961 (resolution WHA13.38) by increasing the amounts voted under paragraph I as follows:

<u>Appropriation Section</u>	<u>Purpose of Appropriation</u>	US \$
	<u>Part I - Organizational Meetings</u>	
2	Executive Board and its Committees	7 090
	Total - Part I	<u>7 090</u>

<u>Appropriation Section</u>	<u>Purpose of Appropriation</u>	US \$
	<u>Part II - Operating Programme</u>	
4	Programme Activities	307 492
5	Regional Offices	187 251
7	Other Statutory Staff Costs	183 643
	Total - Part II	<u>678 386</u>
	<u>Part III - Administrative Services</u>	
8	Administrative Services	78 933
9	Other Statutory Staff Costs	40 685
	Total - Part III	<u>119 618</u>
	Total - Parts I, II and III	<u>805 094</u>

3. DECIDES further to amend paragraph III of the same resolution by increasing the amounts appropriated under sub-paragraph (iii) and (iv) by \$ 45 709 and \$ 759 385 respectively.

Decision: The resolution, as amended, was approved.

2. MALARIA ERADICATION SPECIAL ACCOUNT: Item 3.16.1 of the Agenda (resolution EB26.R9, EB26.R10; Official Records 106, Annex 5; document AI4/AFL/22)

The SECRETARY recalled that additional information on the Malaria Eradication Special Account had been provided to the joint meetings of the committees, together with a list of pledges and contributions made since 31 December 1960. The report of the Director-General (document AI4/AFL/22) indicated the efforts

which had been made to raise funds for the Special Account and the steps which had been taken to implement plans for the issue of malaria eradication postage stamps. That project was developing satisfactorily. It was the intention to invite Members to issue such stamps on or about 7 April 1962; during the past week, the Director-General had sent a circular letter to governments transmitting the suggested design and the suggested emblem. It was hoped that the project had been initiated early enough to allow governments to include the issue of these stamps in their philatelic programmes.

Dr CAYLA (France) said that the issue of malaria eradication postage stamps would serve two useful purposes; it would draw the attention of the world to the importance of the problem of malaria and to the action being taken to rid the world of this scourge; it would also help to raise money for the programme. Countries in which it was the practice to issue special stamps on which there was a surcharge could be asked to contribute the receipts from the surcharge on the malaria eradication postage stamps to the Special Account; countries where that practice was not followed could be asked to contribute a percentage of the receipts from the sale of the stamps to the Special Account. To be really effective the campaign should be organized annually until the completion of the programme, instead of once only. That would provide a new **and substantial** source of income. It would also provide an equitable means of obtaining contributions for the special account since most of the buyers of these stamps would be found in the more highly developed countries.

Dr GOOSSENS (Belgium) said his government was in full agreement with the project of issuing malaria eradication postage stamps and would make surcharge on such stamps. He asked whether the issue had been planned in conjunction with the Universal Postal Union.

The SECRETARY said that, in presenting the proposal for a malaria eradication stamp issue to the Executive Board, the Director-General had suggested that the primary objective should be to create a wider understanding of the problem of malaria and to promote the informational and educational aspects of the malaria eradication programme. It was evident that there would also be secondary advantages and one of these was the possibility that some governments issuing the stamps might be willing to contribute a portion of the sales receipts, or a portion of the stamp issue for philatelic purposes, to WHO; alternatively, some governments engaged in malaria eradication programmes might find an additional source of revenue for such programmes from the sale of the stamps. He would like to stress that the plan had been fully co-ordinated with the Universal Postal Union which was helping as far as possible within its terms of reference by communicating it to all postal administrations.

The CHAIRMAN read the following draft resolution:

The Fourteenth World Health Assembly,

Having reviewed the report of the Director-General on the status of the Malaria Eradication Special Account,

1. THANKS those donors whose contributions to the Malaria Eradication Special Account have made it possible to finance the programme to date;

2. COMMENTS the Director-General for the action pursued in order to obtain contributions to the Special Account;
3. CONSIDERS that, whatever the method of financing adopted for future years, it will be necessary to obtain voluntary contributions to ensure the current financing of the programme and to secure the funds necessary for the period of transition to a new method;
4. REQUESTS the Director-General to pursue his efforts to obtain voluntary contributions from all possible sources, including governments, foundations, industries, labour organizations, institutions and individuals; and
5. REQUESTS the Director-General to report regularly to the Health Assembly on the status of the Malaria Eradication Special Account and any relevant developments.

Mr Le POOLE (Netherlands) said that he was not in agreement with paragraphs 3, 4 & 5 of the proposed draft resolution and asked for a separate vote on those paragraphs.

Dr AFRIDI (Pakistan) asked whether it would be possible to postpone discussion on the draft resolution until it had been circulated.

That suggestion was supported by Mr WYATT (United States of America)

Decision: It was agreed to defer further consideration of the matter until the draft resolution was circulated.

3. DECISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND IAEA AFFECTING WHO'S ACTIVITIES ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS: Item 3.21 of the Agenda (documents AL4/AFL/6, AL4/AFL/6 Add.1 and AL4/AFL/6 Add.2; resolution EB27.R19)

Mr BRADY, representative of the Executive Board, said the Board at its twenty-sixth session had noted the report by the Director-General on the item now before

the Committee. That report had outlined important changes in the provisions of the Joint Staff Pension Fund which had been recommended by the Expert Review Group and endorsed by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Joint Staff Pension Board, and which at the time of the Board's twenty-sixth session had been before the United Nations General Assembly. The General Assembly had since taken a decision which had budgetary implications, with which the Committee had already dealt.

The Director-General's report had also mentioned the status of a secretariat study on the adequacy of the international salary scales. He had indicated that the results would be known by the end of 1960 and would be presented to the International Civil Service Advisory Board in the spring of 1961.

At its twenty-seventh session the Executive Board had considered further reports by the Director-General on the subject which were now before the Committee. They included extracts from the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative budgets of specialized agencies for 1961 relating to such matters as the activities of the various United Nations bodies in the emergency programme in the Congo, and the extent of assistance by the different agencies to the newly independent countries - especially in Africa. The matters of special concern to WHO related to the budget, for example the amalgamation of accounts into the Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion, malaria eradication, medical research, the use of the Russian language and Headquarters accommodation.

The Executive Board had given much thought to the problem of co-ordination with the United Nations and other international bodies, and had instructed the Director-General to develop further an outline study he had already presented to the Board. During the discussions reference was made to a particular instance where co-operation between two agencies might have been more effective if there had been prior consultation with WHO. The Board had noted Resolution 800 (XXX) adopted by the Economic and Social Council on consultation with specialized agencies, but had been informed that this resolution had not been submitted for the consideration of the General Assembly. It could be found in ALL/AFL/6 Add.2. In resolution EB27.R28, the Board had reiterated its belief in the value of prior consultation among international organizations if co-operation was to be fully effective, and recommended that the matter be considered further at the Fourteenth World Health Assembly.

The SECRETARY said the documents before the Committee contained a great deal of useful information and raised some very interesting questions regarding the administration, budget, finance and management of WHO and co-ordination between it and other members of the United Nations family.

Dealing with a few major points in the documents before the Committee, he said that a decision had been reached with regard to the post adjustments system which co-ordinated the practice in all organizations and settled in a satisfactory manner the question, which had arisen earlier, about the application of the system in New York and Geneva.

So far as the review of the Joint Staff Pension Fund was concerned, account had already been taken of a decision by the United Nations General Assembly and its financial implications.

Substantial progress had been made in regard to the study of international salary scales through the machinery of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, and it was hoped that further progress would be made during the current year.

The report of the Advisory Committee on Administration and Budgetary Questions on the administrative budgets of the agencies for 1961 dealt with a variety of questions in the administrative, budgetary, financial and management fields: a special section was devoted to WHO.

The Advisory Committee had referred to the managerial aspects of the programme appraisal made by all the organizations in connexion with the Five-Year Perspective and noted certain aspects that were important from the administrative and financial point of view. For example, it was stated in paragraph 7 of the Report that appraisal might go beyond the mere listing of needs and hopes, and might include information and judgements on methods of financing as well as on the practical organizational and administrative machinery and techniques for the most effective execution of the programme. Attention was called to major changes in emphasis including the growing shift of emphasis to development and operational activities, greater decentralization of operations, training within the less developed countries, and the growing demands and scarcity of resources which created a problem of priorities. It had been suggested that an effort be made to streamline the organizational and administrative arrangements in all the organizations.

Budgetary trends had led to special comment by the Advisory Committee, which had stated that any arbitrary stabilization of budgets at existing levels was not desirable and that additional funds were undoubtedly needed for programmes, without greatly increasing administrative overheads.

Later, at the Fiftieth Session of the General Assembly, the Fifth Committee had drawn attention to the same point in its report, which was also in the documentation before the meeting.

The Advisory Committee had presented a table of the budgets of all the international organizations and had referred to the participation of each of them in the United Nations operation in the Congo (Leopoldville), and in assistance to newly independent countries, and to field offices and activities.

In relation to the United Nations Special Fund, reference was made to the fact that WHO had not yet availed itself of any administrative allocations from the Fund to which it was entitled in respect of the two projects for which WHO was the executing agency, and that that decision was without prejudice to any further projects.

On the suggestion of the CHAIRMAN, it was agreed to defer to the next meeting consideration of the section of the report dealing specifically with WHO.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.