



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC  
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DU PACIFIQUE OCCIDENTAL

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Twenty-eighth session  
Tokyo  
6-12 September 1977

WPR/RC28/1-a  
13 July 1977

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. FORMAL OPENING OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE REGIONAL  
COMMITTEE

The retiring Chairman will open the session, which will start at 9.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 6 September 1977, and will be held at the Press Center Hall, Nippon Press Center, Tokyo, Japan. As the formalities for the opening are arranged by the host government, further details will be provided to Representatives at a later date or on their arrival in Tokyo.

2. ADDRESS BY THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN

It is customary for the retiring Chairman to deliver a short address at the opening of each session of the Regional Committee.

3. ADDRESS BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Dr H.T. Mahler, Director-General, will attend this session of the Regional Committee.

4. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS: CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND RAPPORTEURS

The officers of the 1974, 1975 and 1976 sessions were:

Twenty-fifth session - 1974

Chairman	:	Tan Sri Dato (Dr) Abdul Majid bin Ismail (Malaysia)
Vice-Chairman	:	Dr J. Dizon (Philippines)
Rapporteur (in English)	:	Dr Peni Vuiyale (Fiji)
Rapporteur (in French)	:	Dr J. Laigret (France)

Twenty-sixth session - 1975

Chairman	:	Dr T.M. McKendrick (Western Samoa)
Vice-Chairman	:	Dr A. Tanaka (Japan)
Rapporteur (in English)	:	Dr J. Sumpaico (Philippines)
Rapporteur (in French)	:	Dr Phouy Phoutthasak (Laos)

Twenty-seventh session - 1976

- Chairman : The Honourable J.S. Singh (Fiji)
- Vice-Chairman : Mr Robin E. Safitua (Papua New Guinea)
- Rapporteur (in English) : Dr C. Evans (Australia)
- Rapporteur (in French) : Dr Tran Ngoc Dang (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)

5. ADDRESS BY INCOMING CHAIRMAN

It is customary for the incoming Chairman to give a brief address to the Committee. It is, however, not essential for the address to be given at this point of the Agenda. It may, should the incoming Chairman wish, be postponed to a time later in the session.

6. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Documents WPR/RC28/1 and WPR/RC28/1 Add.1)

According to Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Regional Committee, "the Director may, in consultation with the Chairman, include any question suitable for the agenda which may arise or reach him up to twenty-one days before the opening day of the session, in a supplementary agenda which the Committee shall examine together with the provisional agenda. Any items arising or submitted later shall be included in a supplementary agenda provided that the Committee agrees."

7. REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1978 AND 1979 (Documents WPR/RC28/2, WPR/RC28/P&B/1, WPR/RC28/P&B/2, WPR/RC28/P&B/3, WPR/RC28/P&B/4 and WPR/RC28/P&B/5)

7.1 Establishment of the Sub-Committee on Programme and Budget

According to Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific "the Committee shall review from time to time, and in any case once a year, the need to maintain any sub-committee established under its authority."

The Committee, at its twenty-first session,<sup>1</sup> decided that the membership of the Sub-Committee (established in accordance with resolution WPR/RC7.R7, adopted by the Regional Committee at its seventh session) should "consist of half the Members<sup>2</sup> in the Region plus the Chairman of the Regional Committee and that it be rotated among the representatives of various Members, subject to the provision that any representative desiring to participate in the discussion of the Sub-Committee should be entitled to do so."

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<sup>1</sup>See resolution WPR/RC21.R1 (Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, Vol. I, 1976, p. 153).

<sup>2</sup>"Half the Members" means that half an odd number would be the next higher full number - e.g. one half of 17 is 9.

Membership of the Sub-Committee - 1974

Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia (Chairman), Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, United States of America and Western Samoa.

Membership of the Sub-Committee - 1975

Australia, People's Republic of China, France, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Republic of South Viet-Nam, Tonga, United Kingdom and Western Samoa (Chairman).

Membership of the Sub-Committee - 1976

Fiji (Chairman), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, United States of America, Western Samoa.

7.2 Consideration of the report presented by the Sub-Committee on Programme and Budget

The report of the Sub-Committee will be discussed in plenary session on Monday, 12 September.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF BRIEF REPORTS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS ON THE PROGRESS OF THEIR HEALTH ACTIVITIES

Governments may either submit short written reports in advance of the session or present their annual reports to the Committee. Reports received in sufficient time will be reproduced in English and French and distributed to all Representatives. The Chairman will make an announcement to acknowledge their receipt.

9. REPORT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR (Document WPR/RC28/3 and Corr.1)

The report presented to the Committee contains information on the health programmes in the Region receiving technical cooperation from WHO during the period 1 July 1976 to 30 June 1977.

Representatives are invited to review the report section by section. Their comments will enable the Regional Director to obtain a clearer understanding of the needs of and problems facing governments and provide him with further guidance for the future.

10. RESOLUTIONS OF REGIONAL INTEREST ADOPTED BY THE THIRTIETH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS FIFTY-NINTH AND SIXTIETH SESSIONS (Document WPR/RC28/4)

Document WPR/RC28/4 contains the resolutions of regional interest adopted by the Thirtieth World Health Assembly and the Executive Board at its fifty-ninth and sixtieth sessions. Short notes have been added in connexion with the following resolutions as it was felt that the

attention of the Committee should be specifically drawn to some of the operative paragraphs:

- (a) Members in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent which may invoke the provisions of Article 7 of the Constitution (resolution WHA30.12)
- (b) Organizational study on "WHO's role at the country level, particularly the role of the WHO Representatives" (resolution WHA30.16)
- (c) Action in respect of international conventions on narcotic drugs (resolution WHA30.18)
- (d) Biennial programme budget (resolution WHA30.20)
- (e) Development of programme budgeting and management of WHO's resources at country level (resolution WHA30.23)
- (f) Special assistance to Democratic Kampuchea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (resolution WHA30.25)
- (g) Programme budget policy (resolution WHA30.30)
- (h) Coordination within the United Nations system - general matters - United Nations Water Conference (resolution WHA30.33)
- (i) Coordination within the United Nations system (resolutions WHA30.34 and EB59.R39)
- (j) Mental retardation (resolution WHA30.38)
- (k) Use of SI units in medicine (resolution WHA30.39)
- (l) Development and coordination of biomedical and health services research (resolution WHA30.40)
- (m) Special programme for research and training in tropical diseases (resolution WHA30.42)
- (n) Technical cooperation (resolution WHA30.43)
- (o) Health legislation (resolution WHA30.44)
- (p) Information systems and services (resolution WHA30.46)
- (q) The role of nursing/midwifery personnel in primary health care teams (resolution WHA30.48)
- (r) Promotion and development of training and research in traditional medicine (resolution WHA30.49)

- (s) The role of the health sector in the development of national and international food and nutrition policies and plans (resolution WHA30.51)
  - (t) Smallpox eradication (resolution WHA30.52)
  - (u) Expanded programme on immunization (resolution WHA30.53)
  - (v) Regional production of vaccines for expanded programme on immunization (resolution WHA30.54)
  - (w) Method of work of the Health Assembly and of the Executive Board (resolution EB59.R8)
  - (x) Review of the proposed programme budget for 1978 and 1979 (Financial Year 1978)  
Development of the antimalaria programme (resolution EB59.R13)
  - (y) Review of the proposed programme budget for 1978 and 1979 (Financial Year 1978)  
International Conference on Primary Health Care (resolution EB59.R16)
  - (z) Recruitment of international staff in WHO (resolution EB59.R51)
  - (zz) Voluntary fund for health promotion (resolution EB60.R5)
11. GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK (resolution WPR/RC27.R16) (Documents WPR/RC28/GPW/1 and WPR/RC28/GPW/2)

The Committee, at its twenty-seventh session, adopted resolution WPR/RC27.R16 which established the Sub-Committee on the General Programme of Work, to review, analyse and make recommendations on the development and implementation of General Programmes of Work as they affect the Western Pacific Region. The first meeting of the Sub-Committee, which will consider the Sixth General Programme of Work covering a specific period 1978-83, will take place on Monday, 5 September 1977, that is the day preceding the opening session of the Regional Committee.

11.1 Consideration of the report presented by the Sub-Committee on the General Programme of Work

The report of the Sub-Committee will be discussed in plenary session on Monday, 12 September.

11.2 Establishment of the Sub-Committee on the General Programme of Work

According to Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, "the Committee shall review from time to time, and in any case once a year, the need to maintain any sub-committee established under its authority."

The Committee, in adopting resolution WPR/RC27.R16, decided that the membership of the Sub-Committee be rotated annually and that at the twenty-eighth session it be composed of the Chief Representatives of Australia, Fiji, Malaysia and the Philippines. Since its activities are just commencing it has been proposed for the consideration of the Sub-Committee that it maintain its present membership until the twenty-ninth session of the Regional Committee in 1978, when the question of rotation might be reviewed and clarified.

12. JACQUES PARISOT FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP FOR RESEARCH IN SOCIAL MEDICINE OR PUBLIC HEALTH: SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE 1978 AWARD (Documents WPR/RC28/5 and WPR/RC28/5 Add.1)

Document WPR/RC28/5 describes the background to the award, in principle every two years, of the Jacques Parisot Foundation Fellowship for research in social medicine or public health and the Jacques Parisot Medal. The Regional Committee for the Western Pacific has been chosen by lot to nominate three candidates in 1977 for the fellowship to be awarded in 1978. Member States of the Region were invited by the Regional Director on 6 July 1977 to nominate suitable candidates. A list of the candidates nominated, from which three must be selected, will be issued as document WPR/RC28/5 Add.1.

13. HEALTH MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT: MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMME (Document WPR/RC27/6)

Resolution WHA29.72, adopted by the Twenty-ninth World Health Assembly, requested the Director-General to "build medium-term health manpower development programmes with concrete aims and target indices for evaluation of the results obtained, these programmes to be discussed at the regional committee meetings in 1977".

Document WPR/RC28/6 presents the draft medium-term programme, 1978-1983, for health manpower development in the Western Pacific Region. The attention of the Committee is drawn to the fact that, although the programme was prepared after consultation with individual members of government departments in some countries or areas of the Region, the actual text has not been submitted for clearance because of shortage of time for preparation of the document before presentation to the Committee.

14. REGIONAL CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES (resolution WPR/RC27.R6) (Document WPR/RC28/7)

Resolution WPR/RC27.R6 adopted by the Regional Committee at its twenty-seventh session authorized the Regional Director to engage the services of consultants, with terms of reference established in accordance with views expressed by the Committee, to study the feasibility of establishing a regional centre for environmental health services.

Document WPR/RC28/7 contains a report presented by the Regional Director on the substantive findings and recommendations of the team of consultants that studied the need for, and the feasibility of, establishing the centre.

Following informal consultations with officials in Member States, it has been suggested that the title "Western Pacific Centre for the Promotion of Environmental Planning and Applied Studies (PEPAS)", might more accurately describe the objectives and functions envisaged for the proposed centre.

Representatives are invited to review the report presented and to indicate whether they are ready to support the proposed activity and to authorize the Regional Director to arrange for the establishment of the centre.

15. PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS: WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS (Document WPR/RC28/8)

Document WPR/RC28/8 briefly describes the increasing importance and severity of road traffic accidents in relation to public health, calling for stronger WHO involvement in this field.

Representatives are invited to review the objectives and proposed activities of the WHO global programme on prevention of road traffic accidents and to indicate the action to be taken in the Western Pacific Region.

16. WHO'S ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH: GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF THE REGIONS IN RESEARCH (resolution WPR/RC27.R9) (Document WPR/RC28/9 and Corr.1)

Document WPR/RC28/9 reports on progress in implementing the proposals and recommendations contained in resolution WPR/RC27.R9 adopted by the Regional Committee at its twenty-seventh session. Representatives are invited to review and comment on the recommendations of the Regional Advisory Committee on Medical Research with regard to: (1) the plans for developing the Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur, as a WHO regional centre for research and training in tropical diseases; (2) the feasibility of setting up a multidisciplinary research programme on schistosomiasis in the Philippines; (3) the organization, in 1978, of a workshop on health services research and a training course on cardiovascular disease epidemiology; (4) background information and data on research promotion and development in the Western Pacific Region (Annex 4 of document WPR/RC28/9); and (5) the proposed additional budget for research promotion and development from 1977 to 1979 (Annex 5 of document WPR/RC28/9).

17. TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (Document WPR/RC28/10)

Document WPR/RC28/10 reports on the international action already taken to encourage technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC), including resolutions adopted by the Executive Board of WHO and the World Health Assembly. The document sets out proposals for action at the regional and sub-regional levels, and the Committee is invited to make recommendations for future action to stimulate TCDC at these levels.

18. CHANGING TRENDS IN TRAINING (Document WPR/RC28/11)

This item was suggested for inclusion in the provisional agenda by the Government of New Zealand.

19. DIARRHOEAL DISEASES OTHER THAN CHOLERA

This item was suggested for inclusion in the provisional agenda by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

20. STATEMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH WHO

Representatives of the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in official relations with WHO, wishing to do so, will be invited to make statements on the afternoon of Thursday, 8 September or the morning of Monday, 12 September. When it is known how many are proposing to make statements individual representatives will be advised of the date on which their statement has been scheduled.

21. SELECTION OF TOPIC FOR THE TECHNICAL PRESENTATION DURING THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE (Document WPR/RC28/12)

A resolution adopted by the Regional Committee at its twenty-fifth session decided that the Technical Discussions held up to 1974 be replaced by a Technical Presentation dealing with a special subject or health problem to be given by one or two recognized experts in the chosen topic.<sup>1</sup>

Document WPR/RC28/12 contains topics suggested by the Secretariat for the Presentation to be made during the twenty-ninth session of the Regional Committee in 1978.

22. TIME AND PLACE OF THE TWENTY-NINTH AND THIRTIETH SESSIONS OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The Regional Committee at its twenty-fourth session decided that sessions of the Regional Committee could be held in another country if an invitation was extended by a Member State, it being understood that this would not happen in two consecutive years and that all other sessions would be held at the regional headquarters.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>See resolution WPR/RC25.R12 (Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, Vol. I, 1976, p. 204).

<sup>2</sup>See resolution WPR/RC24.R10 (Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, Vol. I, 1976, p. 183).

The twenty-ninth session will be held in Manila and, at its twenty-seventh session, the Regional Committee accepted the kind offer of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines to act as host.

No Government has yet extended an invitation for the thirtieth session of the Regional Committee. The Committee is required to make a decision as to the site of its thirtieth session.

23. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

A summary of the discussions and the resolutions adopted will be incorporated into a final report for approval at the last plenary session.

24. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

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