

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SIXTH MEETING

WHO Conference Hall  
Tuesday, 8 October 1968 at 2.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN: Dr C.S. Gatmaitan (Philippines)

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SIXTH MEETINGTuesday, 8 October 1968 at 2.30 p.m.PRESENTI. Representatives of Member States

AUSTRALIA	Dr H.M. Franklands Mr Tore Lokoloko Dr R.F.R. Scragg Mr P.A. Jackson Dr R.H. MacDonald
CAMBODIA	Dr Thor Peng Thong
CHINA	Dr C.K. Chang Dr Y.T. Wang Dr L.P. Chow
FRANCE	Médecin-Général J. Rondet
JAPAN	Dr T. Muranaka Mr K. Watanabe Mr N. Maekawa Mr Y. Masuko
LAOS	Dr Tiao Jaisvasd Visouthiphongs
MALAYSIA	Dr Chong Chun Hian
NEW ZEALAND	Dr C.N.D. Taylor
PHILIPPINES	Dr C.S. Gatmaitan Dr J. Dizon Dr J. Navarro Dr E. Agustin Dr G. Balbin Dr E. Perez Dr F. Nepomuceno Dr J. Sumpaico Dr J. Caedo
PORTUGAL	Dr N.C. de Andrade
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	Mr Sang-Yung Soh Dr K.S. Chang

UNITED KINGDOM	Dr P.H. Teng Dr C.H. Gurd
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Dr R.K.C. Lee Dr J.K. Shafer Dr H. DeLien
VIET-NAM	Dr Lê Nhân Thuân
WESTERN SAMOA	Mr Luamanuvae Eti

II. Representatives of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies

UNITED NATIONS AND UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND	Mr A.E. Meager
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III. Representatives of other intergovernmental organizations

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF MILITARY MEDICINE AND PHARMACY	Colonel P.J. Barcelona, MC
SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION	Dr A. Guinea

IV. Representatives of non-governmental organizations

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS	Mr J.E. Niñalga
INTERNATIONAL DENTAL FEDERATION	Dr F. Rojas
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR HEALTH EDUCATION	Miss C. del Rosario
THE WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.	Dr J. Galvez, Jr.
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF CATHOLIC NURSES	Mrs M. Ordoñez

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL  
OF NURSES

Mrs R.S. Diamante

WORLD FEDERATION OF  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

Mrs C.M. Abad  
Mrs C. Floro

INTERNATIONAL PLANNED  
PARENTHOOD FEDERATION

Dr H.M.C. Poortman

V. WHO Secretariat

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Dr N.F. Izmerov

SECRETARY

Dr Francisco J. Dy  
Regional Director

## 1 STATEMENT BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Dr IZMEROV, Assistant Director-General, regretted that he had not been able to attend the opening of the session and participate in the celebration of WHO's Twentieth Anniversary at the regional level. The growth of the Organization had been very rapid and there were now 129 Member States. This meant that more countries wished to participate in the activities of the Organization and were paying increasing attention to the health of the people in all countries. There was no doubt that healthy people were required if economic development was to be achieved. Although in the last twenty years the health situation in many countries had improved, there still remained many problems which it had not been possible to solve. A major need was the training of health personnel and to this WHO and the Western Pacific Region had given much attention as the availability of trained staff was the best way of helping countries reach the highest level of health. The regional committees played a very important role in the work of WHO. They discussed the health problems and progress made and gave guidance to the regional directors and advice to the Director-General. He wished the Committee success in its future activities.

## 2 CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

The Committee considered the following draft resolutions presented by Mr LYE (Singapore) and Dr THOR PENG THONG (Cambodia), Rapporteurs.

### 2.1 Annual Report of the Regional Director

Decision: The draft resolution was adopted (see resolution WPR/RC19.R1).

### 2.2 The establishment of a WHO medical school in the Western Pacific Region

Dr FRANKLANDS (Australia) suggested the deletion of the word "unanimous" in the second line of operative paragraph one.

Decision: The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted (see resolution WPR/RC19.R2).

2.3 Integrated planning in health

2.4 Cost of Regional Committees

2.5 Technical discussions

Decision: The draft resolutions were adopted (see resolutions WPR/RC19.R3, WPR/RC19.R4 and WPR/RC19.R5).

2.6 Long-term planning and evaluation (Proposed by the Representative of the United States of America)

Dr LEE (United States of America) stated that when he had introduced this resolution on behalf of the United States delegation, he had not seen the draft resolution on biennial programming. He noted that in the resolution submitted by the Rapporteurs most of the views of his delegation had been included and he wished, therefore, to withdraw his draft resolution.

The Committee then considered the draft resolution proposed by the Rapporteurs.

Mr WATANABE (Japan), referring to operative paragraph two, asked whether the field of mental health was covered under health promotion. In the last line of the same paragraph, the phrase "with particular attention to child health" was used and he wondered why "maternal" health was not included.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR stated that mental health and maternal health both came under health promotion.

Decision: There being no further discussions, the draft resolution was adopted (see resolution WPR/RC19.R6).

## 2.7 Biennial programming

The draft resolution presented by the Rapporteurs for the consideration of the Committee read as follows:

The Regional Committee,

Bearing in mind resolution WHA21.49<sup>1</sup> of the Twenty-first World Health Assembly which recommended all regional committees to give particular attention, at their 1968 sessions, to long-term health planning;

Recalling that during the discussions at the forty-second session of the Executive Board it was suggested that regional committees should consider the desirability of including in future annual programme and budget estimates a proposed programme for the year thereafter;

Having considered the information on this subject submitted by the Regional Director,

1. BELIEVES that the inclusion in the annual programme and budget estimates of the Director-General of a programme projection for a further year ahead would be advantageous to both Member governments and the Organization in developing longer-term plans for health programmes;

2. RECOMMENDS that the Director-General, in accordance with operative paragraph 4 of resolution WHA21.49, include in his report to the forty-third session of the Executive Board the recommendation and the views expressed in this Committee.

In discussing this draft resolution, Dr LEE (United States of America) stated that it would be useful if the budgetary data for the current year, i.e., the year in which the programme and budget proposals were prepared, could be included. This would provide a better picture of the activities. He, therefore, recommended that the following additional text should be included:

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<sup>1</sup>Off. Rec. Wld Hlth Org., 168, 24

Endorsing the concept of a proposed plan of biennial programming drawn up on a base that is as fully costed as possible,

1. ....

2. BELIEVES also that budgetary data for the current year, i.e., the year in which the programme and budget proposals are prepared, should be retained so that a four-year cycle will be presented.

Dr THOR PENG THONG (Cambodia) asked if the inclusion of the additional information requested by the Representative of the United States of America had any financial implications.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR pointed out that this particular matter had not yet been discussed by the Executive Board. The Regional Committees had been asked to submit their views. These would now be discussed by the Executive Board which would review the matter and make some kind of recommendation to the World Health Assembly. The World Health Assembly would make the final decision. Apart from the increased costs, as the proposal would result in a larger document, each column represented a budget year and this would certainly require more work. He hoped that if the proposal were endorsed by the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly, he would not have to request the Director-General for an additional budget officer.

Dr LEE (United States of America) said that the additional information would provide the representatives with a better understanding of the budget. It would certainly cost the Secretariat more money, more paper and more time. However, this must be balanced against the responsibilities of the Regional Committee to review the budget carefully. This could not be done unless full basic information were submitted.

Dr THOR PENG THONG (Cambodia) stated that as long as these expenses were not too high he would agree to the proposal of the Representative of the United States of America.

Decision: The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted (see resolution WPR/RC19.R7).

## 2.8 Health aspects of population dynamics

The Committee considered a draft resolution proposed by the Representative of the United States of America reading as follows:

The Regional Committee,

Having noted that the Regional Office has programmed a course in health aspects of population dynamics for 1970,

1. EXPRESSES its satisfaction that the Regional Office has taken some initiative in this important health field;
2. RECALLS that the last Regional Committee in Taipei resolved that family planning should be closely integrated into maternal and child health programmes;
3. INVITES the Regional Director
  - (a) to further expand the regional office activities in the field of family planning;
  - (b) to promote integration of these activities into maternal and child health programmes;
  - (c) to report to the twentieth session of the Regional Committee on WHO's further activities and plans to assist the family planning programmes in the Region.

Dr CHANG (China) supported the draft resolution but suggested that the text should be rewritten to stress the importance of the integration of maternal and child health and family planning into the general health services. This point had been stressed during the technical discussions held in connexion with the eighteenth session of the Regional Committee.

Dr THOR PENG THONG (Cambodia) stated that the policy regarding family planning varied from country to country. If a resolution were adopted inviting the Regional Director to promote the integration of this activity into the maternal and child health activities and if a Member country refused to take this action, he asked what the consequence would be.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR said that it was the responsibility of each country to decide its policy in this field. No resolution had been adopted during the last session of the Regional Committee on the integration of maternal and child health and family planning into the general health services of the country. This statement had appeared in the report of the technical discussions which were an unofficial part of the Regional Committee proceedings.

Dr TENG (United Kingdom) favoured a merger of paragraphs three(a) and three(b) because this meant that family planning was now part of the regional office activities.

Médecin-Général RONDET (France) stated that the integration of family planning into maternal and child health programmes appeared to have the support of a large number of representatives but the Committee had adopted no resolution on this aspect during its last meeting. He did not think that a reference to the meeting in Taipei should appear in the resolution.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR suggested that paragraph two should be deleted.

It was so agreed.

The Regional Director then suggested that the phrase "maternal and child health programmes" should be replaced by "general basic health programmes".

Dr LEE (United States of America) and Dr FRANKLANDS (Australia) supported this amendment.

Dr THOR PENG THONG (Cambodia) felt that the text was still not very clear and to avoid any misunderstanding it would be preferable to redraft paragraph three(a), as follows:

to further expand the regional office activities in the field of family planning and to promote integration of these activities into maternal and child health programmes in the regional office.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR pointed out that these activities were already integrated into maternal and child health programmes in the Regional Office as the maternal and child health adviser was responsible for work in this field.

Dr LEE (United States of America) stated that the proposal of the Representative of Cambodia changed the meaning of the paragraph considerably and it was not, therefore, acceptable to his delegation.

Dr THOR PENG THONG (Cambodia) considered that the Regional Director should only be invited to promote the integration of family planning activities into maternal and child health programmes when requested to do so by governments.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR proposed that the paragraph should be reworded as follows:

3. INVITES the Regional Director:

(a) to expand further the regional office activities in this field and to promote the integration of these activities into general basic health programmes when requested by governments.

Dr TAYLOR (New Zealand) drew attention to the use of the term "population dynamics" in the second line of the draft resolution. He believed that this were more acceptable than the words "family planning" and suggested that the text should be amended accordingly.

It was so agreed.

Dr CHONG (Malaysia) believed that the words "family planning" were more acceptable and suggested that these be retained.

Médecin-Général RONDET (France) said that as far as the French text of the resolution was concerned, his delegation was content with the wording.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR asked whether the Representatives would agree to change the title of the resolution in accordance with the text given in a resolution of the World Health Assembly to "health aspects of population dynamics".

Dr SHAFER (United States of America) agreed to the Regional Director's proposal.

Dr CHONG (Malaysia) said that if the Committee so decided, he had no strong feelings against the term "population dynamics".

Dr BALBIN (Philippines) suggested that operative paragraph one should be amended to read as follows:

1. EXPRESSES its appreciation that the Regional Office has taken initiative in this important health field.

Dr SHAFER (United States of America) had no objection to this change.

Dr CHOW (China) agreed with the proposed change of title from "family planning" to "health aspects of population dynamics", as

this would cover a much broader field. He further suggested that the words "maternal and child health" in the third line of operative paragraph two(a) should be replaced by the words "general basic health services programmes".

Dr SHAFER (United States of America) said that this change was acceptable to his delegation.

Decision: The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted (see resolution WPR/RC19.R8).

3 REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS: Item 19 of the Agenda (Document WPR/RC19/13)

Dr TENG (United Kingdom) presented the report of the technical discussions, on behalf of Dr Din, Chairman of the Technical Discussions who had already left Manila.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Dr Din for his leadership, the Group Chairmen and Rapporteurs for their very fine work, and the participants who had made valuable contributions to the discussions.

4 TIME, PLACE AND DURATION OF THE TWENTIETH AND TWENTY-FIRST SESSIONS OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE: Item 20 of the Agenda

The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that so far no invitation had been received for the twentieth and twenty-first sessions of the Regional Committee. He suggested that the Regional Director should be authorized to accept on behalf of the Committee any such invitation which might be extended and to inform all Member governments at the earliest possible date.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR stated that if the Committee supported this proposal, he would like to suggest that any invitation should be received by the end of January 1969 as several months were required to negotiate with the host government.

The CHAIRMAN stated that if no invitation was received for the twentieth and twenty-first sessions, these should be held at regional headquarters.

It was so agreed (see resolution WPR/RC19.R9).

5 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT PRESENTED BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMME AND BUDGET: Item 9.2 of the Agenda (Document WPR/RC19/12) AND DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

5.1 Report of the Sub-Committee on Programme and Budget

The CHAIRMAN, in presenting the report to the Committee, stated that the Sub-Committee had spent a considerable amount of time discussing the proposed programme and budget estimates. There had been some dissenting opinions and these were expressed in the report.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR referred to the last sentence in the second paragraph on page 19 and stated that following the meeting, the Representative of the United States of America had agreed to delete the examples he had quoted as there were no projects in the field of chronic and degenerative diseases in the 1970 proposals, while those under the heading: "Biology, Pharmacology and Toxicology" (with the exception of a fellowship requested by the Philippine Government) had been proposed for financing under the Technical Assistance component of the United Nations Development Programme.

There being no further comments, it was agreed that the examples quoted should be deleted.

5.2 Draft resolution WPR/RC19/P&B/WP/1

The Committee reviewed the draft resolution on inter-country and inter-regional projects proposed for implementation under the Technical Assistance component of the United Nations Development Programme. It agreed that these proposals deserved support.

Decision: The draft resolution was adopted (see resolution WPR/RC19.R10)

### 5.3 Draft resolution WPR/RC19/P&B/WP/2

The Committee then reviewed the draft resolution proposed by the Sub-Committee in connexion with the proposed programme and budget estimates for 1970.

Mr WATANABE (Japan) expressed his appreciation of having been given an opportunity to participate in the discussions of the Sub-Committee on Programme and Budget. He was particularly grateful for the accurate and detailed answers given by the Regional Director to the various questions raised in connexion with the expenditures on certain inter-country programmes. Having studied the proposed programme and budget estimates for 1970 and the draft resolution of the Sub-Committee, he noted that the percentage increase proposed for the Western Pacific Region was almost equal to the order of magnitude approved by the Twenty-first World Health Assembly. His delegation supported the proposed programme and budget estimates for the Western Pacific Region in 1970, which was intended to cover many health problems to be solved in countries in the Region, and in that sense it was in favour of the draft resolution. However, he wished to express, on behalf of his Government, its deep concern over the yearly increase in the WHO budget which would entail an increase in its yearly contribution to WHO. This concern was due to the fact that his Government was suffering financial difficulties in order to meet increasing commitments arising from its socio-economic development programme.

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the fact that during the meeting of the Sub-Committee, the Representatives of Australia and of the United States of America had stated that they would vote against

the draft resolution. The reasons for this were clearly indicated in the report of the Sub-Committee on Programme and Budget (see document WPR/RC19/12).

Decision: The draft resolution was adopted (see resolution WPR/RC19.R11).

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Dr DIZON (Philippines) stated that, upon the instructions of his Government, the Philippine delegation wished to enter on record a reservation against the authority or competence of Malaysia to represent North Borneo or Sabah.

The CHAIRMAN enquired from the Regional Director whether the subject was an item on the agenda.

The REGIONAL DIRECTOR stated that the item was not on the agenda. He then read Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure to the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN informed the Representative of the Philippines that he could not consider the item for discussion, but would have his statement put on record.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m. and resumed at 7.10 p.m.

Dr CHONG (Malaysia) regretted to have to request the indulgence of the Committee and the Chairman to refer to the statement of the distinguished delegate from the Philippines questioning the legality of the Malaysian Government to represent Sabah. It was very wise and

proper of the Chairman to have ruled this comment out of order. It would have been most unfortunate if this political issue were to be brought into WHO which was a strictly non-political organization.

He regretted that the statement of the esteemed delegate of the Philippines was to be written into the summary records. This being the case, he requested that the objection by the Malaysian delegation should also be placed on similar record. He further requested that there should be no debate on this item.

The CHAIRMAN agreed to the two requests of the Representative of Malaysia.

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6 ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE: Item 21 of the Agenda (Document WPR/RC19/14)

The CHAIRMAN invited Dr THOR PENG THONG (Cambodia), Rapporteur, to present the draft report of the Committee.

Decision: There being no further comments, the report was adopted (see resolution WPR/RC19.R12).

7 RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

Dr CHANG (China) presented a draft resolution of appreciation. This was supported by the Representatives of Australia, Cambodia, France, Laos, New Zealand, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Viet-Nam and Western Samoa.

Dr DIZON (Philippines) thanked the Committee, on behalf of the delegation of the Philippines, for its kind words.

Decision: The draft resolution was adopted (see resolution WPR/RC19.R13).

## 8 ADJOURNMENT: Item 22 of the Agenda

The CHAIRMAN thanked the Director-General, Dr Candau, the Assistant Director-General, Dr Izmerov, and the Regional Director, Dr Dy, for their valuable assistance. He also expressed his appreciation of the co-operation received from the Representatives, the Vice-Chairman and Rapporteurs and his gratitude to the members of the Secretariat for their contribution to a successful session.

The meeting adjourned at 7.30 p.m.