



TWENTY-FIFTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

VINGT-CINQUIEME ASSEMBLEE MONDIALE DE LA SANTE

ДВАДЦАТЬ ПЯТАЯ СЕССИЯ ВСЕМИРНОЙ АССАМБЛЕИ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ

25ª ASAMBLEA MUNDIAL DE LA SALUD



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President

Président

Председатель : Dr B. D. B. LAYTON (Canada/Канада/Canadá)

Presidente

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1. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION  
CLOTURE DE LA SESSION  
ЗАКРЫТИЕ СЕССИИ АССАМБЛЕИ  
CLAUSURA DE LA REUNION

The PRESIDENT: The Assembly is called to order.

The Twenty-fifth World Health Assembly, now drawing to a close, has met at a time when historic efforts are being made to ease the world tensions which are affecting the peace and security of mankind. On another side of the globe, the nations of the world assembled at the Third United Nations Conference on Trade and Development have been negotiating the crucial question of how better to distribute the world's wealth in order to bridge the gap between the rich and the less privileged peoples.

We can be proud that, under the present circumstances, which can lead to undue optimism or to disarming pessimism, our Assembly has demonstrated a unique sense of realism and the determination to foster cooperation among all countries in the search for solutions to the many health problems that beset our world.

An atmosphere of general accord from the very beginning, as indicated by the Chairman of the Committee on Nominations when he reported that "... all nominations were made unanimously", encouraged a climate of positive and constructive cooperation that developed and persisted in the deliberations which followed.

The World Health Assembly has now become an irreplaceable forum in which countries of the world can meet to decide together on measures for the improvement of the health of all peoples. The importance of our Assembly became increasingly apparent in the general debate on the reports of the Executive Board and on the Annual Report of the Director-General, in which 92 delegations participated.

Considering the responsibilities of the Health Assembly, the increasing complexity of its agenda and the growth of the membership of WHO, it is imperative that we should continue to perfect its methods of work. This is not an easy task, since we have an Assembly that runs smoothly from the organizational point of view. May I, as your President, suggest that any further improvement will depend much more on the self-discipline of each of us than on the possible rationalization of the procedure and organization of the Assembly.

Great strides forward have been made at this Assembly towards the universality of WHO. The Assembly has decided on the representation of China, so that the People's Republic of China may now participate fully in the World Health Organization. We have welcomed the admission during the past year of Fiji and the United Arab Emirates. Bahrain and Qatar have become full Members. Bangladesh has been admitted as a Member and Papua New Guinea as an Associate Member of the Organization. Indeed, we now have reason to hope that the day is not too distant when our Organization will become truly universal.

In the area of disease control and health promotion, among a number of decisions at this Health Assembly the resolution on smallpox reaffirms our collective will to strengthen the technical and organizational measures leading to the ultimate goal of complete eradication of this disease.

In seeking effective ways of controlling cardiovascular diseases, the increasing prevalence of which is also expanding into the less developed parts of the world, the Assembly wisely emphasized the preventive approach.

New efforts were made to assess the problem of blindness and to decide on the measures that the Organization should take in combating one of the oldest and most difficult physical handicaps of man.

The Assembly's examination of the problem of the quality of drugs has once again demonstrated the interest in this complex and important subject. To meet this problem we have decided on new and important measures to be undertaken along the lines laid down by previous Assemblies.

Research in the training of national health personnel and in the organization of community health services was emphasized as being the prerequisite for the planning and implementation of activities in these fields. We all agreed that our Organization should play a leading role in the coordination of international research in this respect.

WHO's role in developing the coordination of medical research in general has again been one of the primary preoccupations of this Assembly. I do not intend to comment upon the justification for this, as we are all fully aware that only through systematic and coordinated research on a worldwide basis can we hope to find the solution to many of the health problems of today.

The health aspects of the human environment have for long been of concern to our Organization. On the eve of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment we had to pay particular attention (and did so) to the role and responsibility of WHO in the further deterioration of the environment, which is assuming increasing health implications.

I shall limit my comments on this Assembly's considerations and decisions on health matters to these few illustrations. There were many other far-reaching decisions taken by the Assembly and I hope I am not causing any disappointment in not referring to them. May I simply add that our deliberations and all of our decisions were characterized by the participants' impressive knowledge of current health problems and by their awareness that the diseases affecting mankind today should be tackled with speed and effectiveness in a global partnership.

The policy decisions taken on health matters have been matched by similar action on administrative and financial questions. I make no pretence of analysing them, but would simply say that they reflect continuing efforts to improve the efficiency and the output of the Organization. There can be no pause in that task: as science advances on all fronts, so administrative and managerial methods must also develop. If I say that we can be satisfied with the evolution of our Organization in this respect, I think I am expressing the feelings of all of you.

Permit me, just in passing, to mention that the approval of the budget, which is normally one of the main preoccupations of the Assembly, was again a search for a balance between the needs and the resources. If the outcome does not satisfy everybody, we cannot but endeavour in future years to reach a decision fully acceptable to all of us.

The Twenty-fifth World Health Assembly also considered the feasibility of changing the constitutional and traditional procedure regarding the budget cycle and, by a large majority, decided in principle on the adoption of a system of biennial budgeting to be instituted progressively over the next few years.

A number of important decisions have been taken regarding headquarters and other accommodation and the Real Estate Fund. In spite of the additional financial burdens which they represent to Members, I am sure that these decisions will pay good dividends in the long run.

May I note another "first" during the Twenty-fifth World Health Assembly - that in regard to the inclusion of Arabic among the official languages of the World Health Assembly.

I would be remiss if I did not include in my closing remarks an expression of our great satisfaction at having more ladies than ever before holding important positions in the Assembly.

When we meet again next year, we shall be celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the coming into formal being of the World Health Organization. The year of the anniversary will be an occasion to reflect upon the achievements and failures during the first quarter of a century of the Organization's life, and to ponder upon the future. This will coincide with the first appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy during the Second Development Decade, which was proclaimed one-and-a-half years ago by the United Nations General Assembly.

I cannot but welcome this coincidence, which should mark a new milestone in the better understanding of the importance of health in overall socio-economic development. In this connexion, may I mention the remarkable analysis of this subject which was made at the Technical Discussions this year under the most able chairmanship of Dr Esther Ammundsen.

The anniversary year should also serve to intensify our efforts in informing the public at large about existing health problems, new health hazards and the old but often forgotten truism that disease knows no boundaries. Today, more than ever before, the struggle for better health requires the understanding and support of all - the rich and the poor, the young and the old. To use the words of Sir George Godber in his memorable address of two days ago, "the further we go the more we find to be done".

And so we approach the termination of the Twenty-fifth World Health Assembly, but before I express my final words of appreciation to all those who have been so helpful in what has been a most pleasurable task for me, I have been requested to give the floor to several delegates upon whom I shall now call.

First on my list I have the delegate of Mexico, Dr Bustamante, speaking for the Region of the Americas.

El Dr. BUSTAMANTE (México): Señor Presidente, señoras y señores delegados, señor representante del Consejo Ejecutivo, señor Director General: Una generosa determinación de los miembros de las delegaciones de los países de América me concede el gran honor de traer a nuestros compañeros y amigos de la 25ª Asamblea Mundial de la Salud, no sólo un adiós de separación, sino el hasta luego, el "au revoir", que expresa el deseo de volver a encontrarnos un día en el curso de nuestra labor común por la salud humana.

Este honor, sin mérito personal, se debió al hecho de que con Cayla, de Francia; Evang, de Noruega; Canaperia, de Italia, y Sauter, de Suiza, es el de México uno de los cinco delegados aquí presentes que concurren hace 26 años a la Conferencia Sanitaria Internacional de la Salud, presidida por el ilustre Thomas Parran, la cual se llevó a cabo en Nueva York, dando origen a la constitución de la Organización Mundial de la Salud.

Todavía antes, en abril del mismo año, Karl Evang fue miembro de la Comisión Técnica Preparatoria de la Conferencia, por lo cual es el decano de la salubridad internacional. El nos ha recordado claramente en esta Asamblea el papel de órgano técnico mundial que debe cumplir la OMS, siguiendo los ideales de sus fundadores. Es de sentir que el Dr. Evang haya partido anoche para su país, porque de otra manera estaría con nosotros.

La Región de las Américas, parte integrante de la OMS, recuerda con respeto y gratitud a sus pioneros; ellos marcaron, en tiempos pasados el sendero y el camino a seguir. El promotor fue Gerardo de Paula Sousa, brasileño universal, quien introdujo el término "salud" en la Carta de San Francisco. Escrita la palabra símbolo, Paula Sousa, de Brasil, y Szeming Sze, de China, propusieron a las Naciones Unidas el establecimiento de un organismo mundial destinado a la salud.

A París, cuna de l'Office international d'Hygiène publique, llegaron los cultivadores de la medicina social de Europa, Asia, Africa, América y Oceanía. Los preside René Saud, el vicepresidente es Martínez Baez; escriben el proyecto de Constitución y en el movimiento de conjunción es centro de debate y acuerdo el Hunter College, próximo a Nueva York.

De las Américas está Brock Chisholm, de Canadá, el siempre recordado director de la Comisión Interina y primer Director de la OMS; de Estados Unidos, el egregio profesor de sanidad Thomas Parran; de Brasil, Paula Sousa, caballero andante de la salud; Zwank, de Argentina, Sotelo, de Bolivia, Bustos, de Chile; Bejarano, de Colombia; Vargas, de Costa Rica; Nogueira, de Cuba; Morán, de Guatemala, León, de Haití; Mondragón, de México; García de Paredes, de Panamá; Ginnés, de Paraguay; Paz Soldán, de Perú; Moll, de El Salvador; Rivero, del Uruguay, y Arreaga Guzmán, de Venezuela, quienes, acompañados de otros delegados, dejaron constancia de la decidida aceptación de la idea de la Organización Mundial por las Américas.

Se constituye la Organización Mundial de la Salud dando cabida a la Oficina Panamericana. A la OMS sirven como directores Chisholm y Candau, del norte y el sur de las Américas. Canadá, la hermosa y activa patria del Presidente de la 25ª Asamblea, Dr. Layton, fue el primer país que ratificó la Constitución. Se abre la Asamblea en 1948 y aún nos parece escuchar en este recinto las palabras de Andrika Stampar, venerada personalidad, al cerrar un apasionado debate y obtener el consenso y la unanimidad necesarios para el nacimiento de la OMS.

La historia de los años recientes la habéis vivido, señoras y señores delegados. Las damas que integran las delegaciones y a quienes rendimos especial homenaje saben que una Asamblea fue presidida una vez por una mujer de aguda inteligencia y armoniosa voz: la señora Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, de la India.

Ni pretendemos ni tratamos establecer distinciones regionales, sólo hemos querido ofrecer una página de nuestros recuerdos como homenaje de agradecimiento a los trabajadores de la salud de ayer, uniéndola a nuestro agradecimiento a los trabajadores de la salud mundial de hoy. Agradecimiento que os presentamos, señoras y señores delegados, al Presidente de la Asamblea, incansable, cortés y firme, a sus compañeros de la Mesa de la conferencia; agradecimiento al equipo de trabajo, al Director General, al Director General Adjunto, a los subdirectores, a los directores regionales y a sus colegas, así como al personal de la OMS, el que ha laborado junto a nosotros en sus despachos y gabinetes, al que hemos oído y que ha sido sólo una sombra tras los cristales de las cabinas de interpretación, al personal entregado a descifrar signos o idiomas, de día y de noche, sin descanso y sin días de fiesta, a todos los que han hecho posible la actividad de la Asamblea.

Gracias a la Sociedad Pro Música, que nos acercó al canto, a la música y al ondear del pabellón de Suiza, hospitalaria y bella, merecedora de nuestra gratitud, así como a la ciudad de Ginebra. La Sociedad Médica de la OMS nos condujo, con el Profesor Gibson, al siempre instructivo volumen de la historia de la medicina.

Gracias a todos por haber dado al mundo el ejemplo de cómo los hombres de buena voluntad, sin distinción alguna, hacen una obra que contribuye a la comprensión y a la paz.

Muy pronto se iniciará el alejamiento físico, más o menos temporal de este grupo; persistirá la relación intelectual y el afecto que creó un solo grupo de trabajo.

Antiguamente, cuando se fundían las campanas, los vecinos llegaban de cerca y de lejos para vaciar en el molde fragmentos de oro, plata, cobre, hierro; la campana servía y sirve a todos. Objeto inerte, al ser tocada por el hombre, lanza al viento un mensaje que dice algo de diferente contenido espiritual, vencedor del tiempo y la distancia.

A la Asamblea Mundial acudimos de cerca y de lejos, trayendo nuestra contribución a la obra común; ésta podrá ser, o es, un poco de cada uno y un mucho de todos, para servir a los demás y para llevar el mensaje de la palabra impresa, de la idea que de ella surge y de la acción que ella desencadena, para convertirse en el valor supremo de la salud física, mental y social.

Si el resultado de nuestras deliberaciones reduce en parte el dolor de los seres humanos, previene algunas de sus enfermedades y produce, por acción de la ciencia y el humanismo, algún beneficio a los seres humanos y contribuye a la paz, podremos sentir que la cosecha correspondió a la esperanza y la inteligencia sirvió al hombre.

Porque creemos que fue así, os decimos a todos gracias, muchas gracias.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you, Dr Bustamante. I will now call on the delegate of Malta, who will speak for the Members of the European Region.

Dr CUSCHIERI (Malta): Mr President, dear colleagues, it is a great honour and pleasure for me to have the opportunity of expressing thanks on behalf of the Member States of the European Region of the World Health Organization - first of all, to you, Mr President.

This meeting has not been an easy one, and we from the European Region have produced at least one of the non-technical problems which took so much of the time, and during the discussion of which you have demonstrated your patience and ability to guide a rather difficult problem.

Together with my thanks to you, Mr President, I would also like to add my sincere thanks to all the Vice-Presidents, to the Chairmen of the main committees, and to all other office-holders at this twenty-fifth Assembly, as well as to Dr Ammundsen, the General Chairman of the Technical Discussions. The heaviest burden, however, has been on the Director-General,

Dr Candau, who, with his balanced and always courteous manners and complete control, and the ability of his Secretariat, has been able to serve us in the most efficient way. At times he has even done the unbelievable in getting reports, working papers or resolutions before us almost in a matter of minutes. Through Dr Candau, I would like to thank also those who have assisted him, including the group of interpreters, who always play a very important role in making our communication possible.

During this meeting several important technical topics have been discussed, topics of importance to each and every Region. It has been interesting to note how many of the delegates had always something new to note and to say which really contributed to our better understanding of the various problems all over the world.

One of the highlights of this meeting was the award of Léon Bernard Prize and Dr A. T. Shousha Prize to Sir George Godber and Dr Ahmed El Halawani respectively. The name of Sir George Godber is not new to my country. The assistance that Sir George has always given, and is still giving, to our medical services - which technically have always been so closely related to those of his country - is always very highly appreciated. As to Dr El Halawani, we also appreciate very much his contributions to the control of infectious diseases in a large group of countries which are very close to Malta and with which we have a very friendly relationship.

I am particularly happy to speak on behalf of the European Region because the medical tradition of my country is so much linked with practically every European country. Finally, I would like to mention and to stress that cooperation in the European Region, in my opinion - and as you have already mentioned Mr President - is so important for all the activities all over the world that we do sincerely appreciate the work which is being done by the Regional Office under the able and brave guidance and leadership of Dr Leo Kaprio.

May I reiterate the expression of my great admiration for the way in which you, Mr President, have guided us through to this very last day of our meetings, and thank again the Director-General for the attention he has shown by listening to all our suggestions and taking note of what the World Health Organization should do in the future. We are fully aware after having seen the financial and budgetary limitations, that not all our wishes could be accomplished; but we also know that within its possibilities the World Health Organization will carry out its duty in the best possible way.

"Au revoir", and never "goodbye". Thank you, Mr President.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you, Dr Cuschieri. I will now call upon the delegate of the Central African Republic, who will speak for the Members of the African Region.

M. MAGALE (République Centrafricaine) : Monsieur le Président de la Vingt-Cinquième Assemblée mondiale de la Santé, la délégation centrafricaine, que j'ai l'honneur de conduire, vous prie de bien vouloir transmettre aux délégations soeurs de la Région africaine ses plus vifs remerciements pour m'avoir apporté, hier, leur appui à l'une des vice-présidences de cette auguste assemblée et pour m'avoir témoigné, aujourd'hui, la même marque de sympathie et de confiance qui honore mon pays, la République Centrafricaine.

Monsieur le Président, Monsieur le Directeur général, honorables délégués, Mesdames, Messieurs, on se sent souvent intimidé quand on prend la parole devant une auguste assemblée telle que celle-ci, mais, s'agissant d'accomplir ce geste au terme de trois semaines de contacts permanents, courtois et enrichissants, je me sens à l'aise à cette tribune parce qu'entouré de figures toutes bien connues, de près ou de loin, à travers toutes les occasions offertes par nos assises.

Monsieur le Président, honorables délégués, les délégations de la Région africaine m'ont chargé de vous transmettre leurs sentiments et leurs réflexions à propos de cette fin de l'Assemblée mondiale de la Santé. En premier lieu, Monsieur le Président, les délégations de ma Région ont admiré vos qualités d'homme compétent, vigilant et dynamique, qualités qui ont marqué les succès de nos travaux. En cela, vous avez non seulement honoré votre pays, votre

Région, mais aussi répondu à nos soucis unanimes d'efficacité et de respect de la durée de trois semaines. Nos félicitations, par la même occasion, vont à vos Vice-Présidents, aux Présidents, Vice-Présidents et Rapporteurs des commissions principales, aux représentants du Conseil exécutif et à la Présidente générale et aux Présidents de groupes des discussions techniques. Et puisqu'on nous apprend que c'est pour la première fois qu'une déléguée est élue présidente d'une commission, la Région africaine vous assure qu'elle a été très honorée du choix d'une compatriote en la personne de Mme le Dr Silva du Nigéria.

Monsieur le Directeur général, la qualité des documents et leur présentation toujours empreinte de compétence et de dévouement ont régulièrement facilité nos travaux. Les délégations africaines vous félicitent et vous remercient, ainsi que le Directeur général adjoint et toute votre équipe. De l'avis de ma Région, les fidèles interprètes méritent une mention égale à leur efficacité. Que notre Directeur régional, M. le Dr Alfred Quenum, veuille bien emporter les assurances de l'appui total et de l'admiration des délégations africaines pour ses immenses et fructueux efforts au service de notre continent.

Monsieur le Président, à l'époque de l'actualité, je veux parler de l'environnement, je manquerais à ma mission si je ne transmettais pas les remerciements de la Région africaine aux autorités genevoises pour avoir assuré notre sécurité dans un cadre accueillant et sympathique. Nos remerciements vont également aux représentants des organisations qui ont participé à nos assises et dont certaines ont marqué nos programmes de leur bienveillante assistance. Je m'en voudrais, Monsieur le Président, si je n'exprimais pas ici les félicitations que ma Région adresse aux heureux lauréats des prix des Fondations Shousha et Léon Bernard.

Monsieur le Président, honorables délégués, le deuxième et dernier domaine que la Région africaine a abordé, c'est celui de la réflexion. En effet, grâce à l'action louable et efficace de notre distinguée organisation, tous les Etats, à des degrés divers, ont compris la nécessité de la planification et possèdent un plan de développement des services de santé. A cet égard, et au tournant de ce quart de siècle de l'Organisation, ce qui manque, ce sont les moyens de mise en oeuvre des plans. C'est pourquoi les pays de la Région africaine, tout en comprenant les différentes tendances qui se sont manifestées lors de la discussion et de l'adoption du budget, s'inquiètent de l'évolution restrictive du budget face à la masse des problèmes. La prudence et l'expérience du Directeur général n'étant plus à démontrer, l'Organisation devrait éviter tout niveau budgétaire qui serait synonyme d'amputations, de soustractions ou de stagnation des programmes. A ce sujet, les travailleurs de la santé qui seront au rendez-vous de Stockholm devront veiller à ce que les conclusions débouchent sur des moyens de plus en plus accrus d'assistance aux programmes déjà arrêtés par l'Organisation dans le domaine de l'environnement.

Enfin, Monsieur le Président, les délégations de la Région africaine vous prient de réitérer à l'adresse des nouveaux Membres dans la grande famille tous les voeux de bienvenue et de prospérité.

Bon voyage.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you, Mr Magale. I will now call upon the delegate of Bangladesh who will speak for the members of the South East Asia Region.

Dr HOSSAIN (Bangladesh): Mr President, Director-General, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, in the absence of Dr Shrivastav, of the Indian delegation, who was supposed to speak on this occasion, I have been assigned this proud privilege of speaking on behalf of the countries of the South East Asia Region to thank you, Mr President, your Vice-Presidents, and the Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteurs of the committees for their able and effective guidance throughout the many meetings that have been taking place during the last three weeks, during which period many far-reaching decisions have been taken by this Assembly.

May I first of all pay my warmest tribute to you, Mr President, for the excellent manner in which you have conducted the sessions and the leadership you have provided throughout so effectively.



Then my sincerest appreciation must go to the Director-General and the representatives of the Executive Board who have guided us through the many intricacies of the proceedings. Through you, Mr Director-General, I would like to convey our sincere thanks to the Deputy Director-General, to the Assistant Directors-General, and the entire Secretariat, who have done so much groundwork to make our task easier.

I am sure I am expressing the sentiments of all Members of our Region when I extend my most sincere thanks to Dr Gunaratne, the Regional Director, for the competent and imaginative way in which he leads the World Health Organization programmes in our Region.

I would also like to thank all the interpreters, the translators and others who, having worked so meticulously behind the scenes, have contributed to the complete success of the Assembly.

Finally, on behalf of the countries of the Region, I would like to assure full cooperation to the World Health Organization in future. Once again, Mr President, may I take the opportunity to extend our thanks to you and, through you, to all the delegates participating in the Assembly.

The PRESIDENT: Thank you, Dr Hossain. I will now call upon the delegate of New Zealand, who will speak on behalf of the Members of the Western Pacific Region.

Dr KENNEDY (New Zealand): Mr President, distinguished delegates, it is my privilege to say a few words on behalf of the delegations from the Western Pacific.

The annual meeting of any international organization can be a routine affair - an occasion for backslapping, cocktail chit-chat and skeletal agenda - an opportunity more to take a break from ones duties at home than to make a contribution to international cooperation.

But the Twenty-fifth World Health Assembly has been far from routine. By contrast, it has been a stimulating session packed with interest, and even with excitement. As with most Health Assemblies, this has been due partly to the Secretariat's thoroughly professional and expert preparation for the Assembly, from the most mundane conference arrangements to the most technical analyses of particular health problems. It has been due also to the intrinsic interest of the subject matter itself, the knowledge that a well-timed and soundly conceived statement can form a link in a chain that will ultimately lead to the actual relief of suffering somewhere in the world. The interest of the session has also been due to the quality of the debate and presentation of argument - the stimulus of new ideas, new analyses of old problems and the prospect of new solutions. And lastly, it has been due to the quality of the staff and the officers of the conference with whom we have been privileged to work. In this particular tribute I would include not only our distinguished Director-General and his senior professional officers, but every member of the staff whose competence and courtesy have contributed to the undoubted success of this great conference.

May I, on the personal level, say what a great pleasure it has been to see my old friend, Dr Basil Layton, discharging his duties as President of the Assembly with his usual skill, relaxed confidence and good humour. His appointment has been the culmination of a long and positive association with the World Health Organization and I am sure everybody in this hall will want to thank him for his contribution over the years and to wish him well for the future.

Mr President, we have had some discussion at this session about the use of official languages. Being insular folk in New Zealand, we are not often noted for our linguistic skills, although we have our own particular brand of the English language. We do however have two languages in New Zealand - English and Maori - and perhaps I may be permitted to close by simply saying in our Maori language, "haere ra a kia ora" - and that has got the translators whacked, so I'll translate it for you; it means simply, "Goodbye and good health to everyone".

The PRESIDENT: Thank you, Dr Kennedy. And now I will call upon the delegate of the Syrian Arab Republic, who will speak on behalf of the Members of the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

Le Professeur SAADA (République Arabe Syrienne) : Monsieur le Président, Messieurs les délégués, au nom des Membres de la Région de la Méditerranée orientale, je tiens à vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, pour la compétence, la patience et l'habileté avec lesquelles vous avez mené les débats des séances de cette session. Grâce à vos qualités et à votre riche expérience, notre Assemblée est parvenue à réaliser les buts qu'elle s'était définis cette année. On se rappellera toujours que votre sens de la décision se manifestant au moment opportun - comme l'indique votre phrase "I see none" - nous a permis d'être à jour dans nos travaux.

Je profite aussi de cette occasion pour adresser mes félicitations à M. le Directeur général et à tous ceux qui ont collaboré à la réussite de cette session. Aux délégations qui y ont participé, je présente mes remerciements pour la bonne volonté dont ils ont fait preuve pour enrichir de leur expérience nos connaissances sur les grands problèmes sanitaires dans le monde. Je les félicite de tout coeur du succès auquel nous avons abouti ensemble et je leur souhaite un bon retour dans leur pays ainsi qu'une réussite de plus en plus grande dans l'accomplissement de leurs tâches humanitaires. Je ne leur dis pas "adieu" mais "au revoir" !

The PRESIDENT: Thank you, Professor Saada, and thank you all, gentlemen, for the very kind comments you have made to the Secretariat and the Presidency of the Twenty-fifth World Health Assembly.

In expressing my appreciation to those who have just spoken, may I include all delegates and delegations who have so admirably cooperated and assisted me throughout our deliberations. May I also turn to the gentleman on my right, the Director-General, Dr Candau, his deputy on my left, Dr Pierre Dorolle, and say thank you both for your invaluable assistance during these past three weeks. Similarly, I turn to the staff, the Assistant Directors-General and the Regional Directors, the experts and their technical and secretarial supporters, to the interpreters, translators, receptionists, huissiers, guards - all who have generously provided such valuable support to my efforts.

Finally, and without detriment to the many delegates whom I am proud to include as my friends, may I say a very special thank you to Professor Eugène Aujaleu of France, a most distinguished member of this and many Assemblies, whose example inspired me to emulate all of my predecessors in this Chair. I am deeply indebted to all.

And so, with a concluding request for any comments, proposals, objections - and I see none - may I wish you all a safe and happy return to your homes and your loved ones.

I now declare the Twenty-fifth World Health Assembly closed.

The session closed at 12.20 p.m.

La session est clote à 12h.20.

Заседание закончилось в 12 час. 20 мин.

Se clausura la reunión a las 12,20 horas.