



26 March 1975

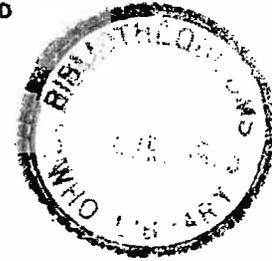
TWENTY-EIGHTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

INDEXED

Provisional agenda item 2.2.3

DETAILED REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR
THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1976 AND 1977

Comments from other organizations, the United Nations,
the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency
on the programme budget for 1976 and 1977



In accordance with arrangements made by the Administrative Committee on Coordination and with resolutions 1549 (XLIX) and 1643 (LI) of the Economic and Social Council, the Director-General transmitted on 9 December 1974¹ the proposed programme budget for the financial years 1976 and 1977² to all organizations of the United Nations system. The responses which are marked with an asterisk * were placed before the Executive Board at its fifty-fifth session, whilst the others have been received since that time.

1. UNITED NATIONS

"The proposed programme budget is an excellent and well-designed programme. There appears to be no overlapping between its projects and those of the United Nations being prepared for the same biennium 1976-77.

However, it is somewhat disappointing to note that no reference is made in the proposed programme to WHO's participation and co-operation in the preparatory activities for the United Nations Water Conference. Nor is it possible to divine if some specific budgetary allocation has been envisaged for this activity.

There are several projects on which co-operation would be advantageous to both the WHO and the United Nations. In particular, there is a need for co-operation and collaboration in respect to the following programmes:

- (a) Development and strengthening of Maternal Child Health family planning services;
- (b) Interregional, regional and inter-country seminars on different aspects relating to Maternal Child Health and family planning in 1976 and 1977;
- (c) Scientific Group on Recent Progress in Research on Fertility Regulation in 1977;
- (d) Scientific Group on the Study of Interruption of Pregnancies;
- (e) Scientific Group on Operational Aspects of Family Planning, 1976.

Co-operation in project number PPH-001, referred to on page 315, relating to support and family planning programmes is already underway, and it is hoped to strengthen this co-operation in 1975. In regard to other projects in the area of family planning, the United Nations would appreciate being informed of the progress of work at the WHO in order to avoid duplication of work as well as to benefit from their experience in the implementation of its own projects.

¹ See Annex.

² Off. Rec. Wld Hlth Org., No. 220.

The United Nations has a standing interest in those aspects of WHO's work which are geared toward implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development (and the various regional plans). In the health field, the World Plan of Action concentrates on six selected areas of public health, which are within the competence of the WHO.

The six fields in question are all dealt with in the proposed WHO budget as follows:

- (a) Health aspects of community water supply (chapter XIII.A of the World Plan and item 6 of the WHO Budget, more particularly items 6.1.2 to 6.1.4, dealing respectively with the provision of basic sanitary measures, pre-investment planning for basic sanitary measures, pre-investment planning for basic sanitary services and control of environmental pollution and hazards);
- (b) Control of communicable diseases (chapter XIII.B of the World Plan, concentrating on certain specific diseases, and item 5 of the WHO Budget on communicable disease prevention - more particularly items 5.1.2 to 5.1.7 on epidemiological surveillance of communicable diseases, malaria and other parasitic diseases, smallpox eradication, bacterial and mycobacterial diseases and virus diseases);
- (c) Vector control (chapter XIII.C of the World Plan and item 5.1.10 of the WHO Budget on vector biology and control);
- (d) Nutrition (chapter XIII.D of the World Plan and item 3.2.4 of the WHO Budget);
- (e) Organization and content of community health services (chapter XIII.E of the World Plan and item 3 of the WHO Budget); and
- (f) Education and training of health personnel in relationship to the development of health infrastructure (chapter XIII.F of the World Plan and item 4 of the WHO Budget).

WHO may wish to provide the United Nations with more information on the projects referred to in the above paragraph, for possible use in connexion with OPI activities on 'mobilization of public opinion in relation to World Plan of Action . . . and the regional plans', which is being undertaken pursuant to ECOSOC resolution 1899 (LVII).

It is assumed that WHO will bring to the attention of the 1975 sessions of ACAST's regional groups the various projects of interest to the respective regions.

Under WHO's programme 3.1 entitled 'Strengthening of health services', it is stated that particular attention will be given to two groups, the disabled and the old, as these have hitherto not been adequately covered by health services (p. 115). WHO has in the past generously contributed to the United Nations study on the aged, the documentation for the expert group meeting on the aged, and the information exchange system relating to the aged which is now being established. Our current and planned studies on the question of the aged concern the needs of, and policy measures for, the aged in shantytowns and in rural areas of developing countries, including health needs and services. Should the WHO programme 3.1 generate information, either through special studies or reports of technical assistance experts, on health services for the aged in developing countries, it would be most helpful if this information were made available to the United Nations in good time. It is not clear what WHO intends to do in the field of aging; additional information on this matter would be welcome to clarify the nature and extent of co-operation between the Agency and the United Nations.

WHO's proposed activities relating to the handicapped, that are or could be of interest to the United Nations, including the strengthening of medical services for the rehabilitation of the handicapped (p. 115) and further work on the existing project on the programming, planning, functioning, design and architecture of hospitals in developing countries (p. 117). The former is relevant to the United Nations' proposed manual on national rehabilitation programmes and it was specifically agreed at the inter-agency meeting held on 19-22 November 1974 that there should be consultation and co-operation with WHO in carrying out this project. The latter might have a relation to the United Nations project on barrier-free design. However, additional information on the WHO project is needed before this relationship can be determined.

The proposed national studies on the economics and effectiveness of primary disability prevention (p. 117) would be of interest to the United Nations just as the United Nations' current project on the economic implications of investments in rehabilitation services could be of interest to WHO. An exchange of information in this area could be mutually beneficial.

Again, under WHO programme 3.1 it is proposed to extend studies on community involvement in solving local health problems. Here, co-operation would be of mutual profit. In view of the United Nations' long experience with popular participation and community programmes, it could contribute to this project, at least by reviewing the draft studies. On the other hand, these studies could provide inputs to the United Nations' own studies on community programmes, intended either for the whole community or for special groups.

WHO's programme 3.2 entitled 'Family health' contains two components of interest: 'Maternal and child health' and 'Human reproduction'. The United Nations' activities relating to the first concern 'maternal and child welfare' and are supportive of UNICEF programmes. Since both the United Nations and WHO are represented at meetings of working groups organized by UNICEF, a mechanism exists for exchange of information and co-operation in this area. Activities related to the second component concern family planning. The proposed activities of WHO (p. 134) under this programme component as well as under the earlier component and the United Nations' own current and planned activities in this area are complementary, as the effectiveness of medical service for family planning depends to a large extent on information, education and motivation activities with which it is concerned. Here, again, an exchange of information and possibly co-operation would be most helpful.

Finally, WHO programme 6.1 entitled 'Promotion of environmental health' contains activities which find their complement in the work programme of the Social Development Division of the United Nations. The most conspicuous example is WHO's proposed guidelines for mobilizing community participation in the provision of basic sanitary measures (p. 282). The rationale for the linkage between this activity and the United Nations' activities is similar to that stated in the paragraph above dealing with item 3.1 of the WHO programme in connexion with community involvement in solving health problems."

1.1 ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE (ECE)

"This document has been brought to the attention of the officials concerned in the ECE secretariat. Particular attention has been given to the activities concerning man and the environment included in the chapter 'Promotion of environmental health' (pages 274-311). We have noted that in many areas such as air and water pollution problems, solidwaste management, etc., similar concerns exist between the activities of our two organizations. It would seem to us that the existing arrangements for the close co-operation and exchange of relevant information between our two secretariats would be adequate to avoid any unnecessary duplication of the work of our secretariats in those areas.

I should like to draw your attention to a number of ECE activities which are related to projects included in your proposed programme budget and in which the above-mentioned inter-secretariat co-operation would seem most desirable.

In the field of air pollution the ECE Working Party on Air Pollution Problems, at its 4th session, considered the usefulness and the desirability of co-operation with WHO in the preparation of a manual on industrial air pollution problems. There was general agreement at the meeting concerning ECE's participation in the project. (ENV/WP.1/2, paragraphs 31-35)

As regards toxic chemicals and toxic wastes the activities of the ECE Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems might be of interest and assistance to WHO in connection with the latter's work on 'Evaluation of chronic toxicity' (page 293) and 'Methods of toxicity evaluation of new chemicals' (page 296). Attention is drawn in particular to the proposed ECE seminar on problems of toxic wastes which was suggested by the ad hoc Meeting of Experts to study the basic concepts and priorities for re-cycling or safe disposal of toxic chemicals and wastes held in October-November 1974. (ENV/AC.2/2)

The problem of noise has been given special attention in item 6.1.4 of the proposed programme budget under 'Environmental health criteria' and 'Prevention and control of environmental hazards' (page 293). In this connection it is suggested that your secretariat may wish to bear in mind that a 'task force' on the problem of noise was set up for the implementation of project 05.2.12 on the study of the problem of noise in the programme of work of the ECE Senior Advisers on Environmental Problems (ECE/ENV/4 Annex III, Page 5). One of the goals of the 'task force' would be the identification of major problem areas in the control of noise that jeopardizes health and welfare.

I am confident that as in the past the officials concerned in our secretariats will continue their close co-operation in order to avoid any unnecessary duplication in carrying out the programmes of work approved by our respective governmental bodies."

1.2 ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA (ECA)*

"We have studied this document with great interest and I am pleased to forward to you the attached views of my colleagues in the fields of population, human environment and manpower training.

Population

WHO proposed Programme of Work for the financial years 1976 and 1977 ties in very well with the work programme of the ECA in the field of population and is also in line with recommendations of interest to Africa made at the World Population Conference. Foremost among these are:

1. Plans to continue assistance for the strengthening of existing health services in order that they may achieve better coverage.
2. The continuation of assistance to help member states to incorporate maternal and child health activities, including family planning, into general health services in order to reduce maternal and child mortality and to make preventive and curative services available to most families.
3. The intensification of assistance to help reduce morbidity and mortality from malaria, schistosomiasis and trypanosomiasis, and assistance to control onchocerciasis.
4. The publication of the ninth revision of the International classification of diseases.
5. The operational research on the integration of maternal and child health with family planning service in the Philippines.
6. The continuation of assistance in the development of family planning aspects of maternal and child health activities, establishment of national capabilities in such fields as sterility, sub-fertility and the evaluation of programmes.

Generally WHO's programmes in the areas listed above, especially those which are specifically related to Africa, will help in the implementation of recommendations in the World Population Plan of Action which, among other things, include research in the field of mortality and family planning, the reduction of maternal, infant and child mortality, and the introduction of family planning as an integral part of normal health services. Work on the revision of the International classification of diseases will also help morbidity and mortality surveys and studies in the region.

The ECA Population Programme Centre has been having very close and useful collaboration with the WHO through its liaison officer in the ECA in the implementation of the work programmes of the two organizations. We look forward to continuing this close collaboration during the period 1976-1977.

Environment

Promotion of Environmental Health

The document states that the continuing high mortality and morbidity resulting from biological pollution is associated with sanitary environmental conditions especially due to lack of safe and ample water supply and inadequate supply and the disposal of human and animal waste. Further it states that many countries lack machinery through which environmental problems can be assessed.

In this regard, we welcome the plan by the WHO for the systematic collection and assessment of scientific information on the effects on health of environmental agents. Their plans for the maintenance of national systems of environmental health monitoring are highly applicable to the continent of Africa. Furthermore, the ECA, through its various legislative provisions, regards environmental problems concerned with urbanization, industrialization, rural development, agriculture, water resources development and transportation as being of utmost importance for Africa. The ECA has plans for the creation of governmental machineries for environmental management and would wish to be associated with any efforts of WHO in this connection.

We would like to note further that environmental management in Africa is hampered by shortage of trained personnel in proper administrative structure and inadequate financing. In this regard, the ECA would like to be associated with any project designed by the WHO to obviate such difficulties.

Finally, it would appear to us that the budgetary provisions as indicated in the WHO's Work Programme falls somewhat short of amounts that would adequately tackle these problems for Africa when compared with several developing continents which are in the same position as Africa.

Manpower and Training

Although WHO is specifically concerned with health manpower in its programme, it is gratifying to note that implicitly WHO has lent concrete support to the concept of manpower as an integral part of the overall development process. I wish, however, to emphasize that manpower planning, being a critical component in national development policy must not be sectoralized and sporadic. The manpower needs of every sector must be drawn together to compose the mosaic of a country's national manpower institutions. This is for the simple reason that health, like other sectors, consists of occupations which are not rigidly education-specific so that the transferability factor after any training must be taken into account to avoid the paradox of aggregative and simultaneous shortages and surpluses.

The above does not by any means deny WHO's recognition and action consistent with our view that health manpower planning is simply one of the numerous aspects of national manpower planning. It is simply that we would like to emphasize the necessity for a co-ordinated approach in the planning and development of all types and levels of manpower without, however, sacrificing any national priority for urgent and immediate attention in the field of health manpower planning (or any other sectoral manpower planning), development and utilization."

1.3 UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)*

UNCTAD had no comments to offer on this occasion.

1.4 UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO)*

"An examination of this document confirms our exchange of views in connexion with the corresponding document for 1975 (Volume 212 of your Official Records), regarding the desirability of consultations at the intersecretariat level about work programmes in the fields of quality control of pharmaceutical preparations (programme 5.3.2), control of environmental pollution and hazards (programme 6.1.4) and the food standards programme (6.1.7). I was pleased to note the reference to co-operation with UNIDO under programme 5.3.2 on page 258."

2. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO)*

"As in the past, the work programme of WHO appears to complement that of the ILO in many ways. The ILO is strongly interested in the social security aspects of your programme for Strengthening of Health Services and extending them to the rural sector (pages 114-117). In particular, may I refer to the already existing arrangements for co-ordination of the WHO project on the financing of health care services (page 117, New activities, item (a)) and the corresponding ILO study on the rising cost of medical care under social security.

Likewise, many of the WHO proposals for the Control of Environmental Pollution and Hazards programme and the Health of Working Populations programme appear to relate closely to the ILO work proposed for 1976-77 in the field of Working Conditions and Environment. Over and above the cooperation concerning projects HWP 002 and HWP 003 (page 301), already foreseen by the respective units of our organisations, the ILO would be interested to collaborate on certain of your projects on occupational health problems in developing countries (page 299), as well as on studies on the effects on health of occupational exposure to certain hazardous environmental conditions.

Let me finally point to an ILO survey carried out for the United Nations Environment Programme in 1974 on attitudes of employers' and workers' organisations concerning the protection of the environment outside the place of work, the results of which might prove useful to the WHO programme on the promotion of environmental health (programme 6.1).

I hope that our two secretariats can work closely in the coming years to harmonise further their efforts in pursuing these various programmes of work."

3. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)*

"The narrative of Subprogramme 6.1.4 - Control of environmental pollution and hazards - may give rise to some misinterpretation about its scope and limits. The control of environmental pollution and hazards involves many agencies of the UN system within the programme framework of UNEP. To a large extent the problem of defining areas of competence between the UN agencies in this field is expected to be solved through the intersecretariat consultations which will be called by UNEP in the near future on environmental criteria and on GEMS (Global Environmental Monitoring System). The following points, however, call for the attention of WHO's governing bodies.

The WHO programme on Control of Environmental Pollution and Hazards is essentially confined to the assessment and control of the direct effects of pollution on the health of man. In most cases the control of pollution in media such as water, soil and food chains requires an equal participation of 'non-health' institutions since such pollution also involves other activities such as agriculture, fisheries, industry, etc. Consequently several of the activities listed on page 296 should be considered as cooperative activities jointly with FAO and several other agencies within the framework of UNEP. Examples are Preparation of a Guideline for Water Quality Management - CEP 022, Control Techniques for Selected Pollutants - CEP 025 and 026, Guidelines for Management Techniques in Environmental Pollution Control - CEP 027, and Water Pollution Monitoring - CEP 035. Unless the scope of such programmes is clearly defined, as indicated above, they could duplicate FAO's programme on 'Improvement of Aquatic Environment and Control of Aquatic Pollution'.

The same remarks apply to Subprogramme 6.1.6 - Establishment and strengthening of environmental health services and institutions - with particular reference to the Symposium on consideration of environmental quality in the policy and planning of developing nations - SES 004, page 306.

I hope that the above comments will serve to strengthen cooperation between WHO and FAO."

4. UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)

"Chapter 2 - General Management and Coordination

As drafted, the programme is flexible enough and leaves room for inter-agency cooperation at various levels. We would therefore recall that Unesco's cooperation with WHO in MAB and IHD, for example, is in our view important. We consider that cooperation between WHO and Unesco in the field of Cell and Molecular Biology, Applied Microbiology and Brain Research is both useful and satisfactory.

We also believe that the following specific topics would offer opportunities for collaboration between WHO and Unesco in the statistical field:

- (a) development of statistics with respect to the migration of highly qualified manpower within the framework of the ACC Sub-Committee on Education and Training;
- (b) development of detailed classification by objective of scientific and technological activities in the field of medicine and public health. Such classifications are needed for the quantification of targets for scientific and technological development established by ACAST for the Second Development Decade.

Chapter 2 - Section 2.3 - Research promotion and development

Unesco would welcome closer cooperation with WHO in the programme concerning human rights. Reference may be made to the provision for a joint Unesco/WHO study on the consequences for mankind of the new powers conferred on it by science and technology in the medical sphere (para. 5029, Unesco Programme and Budget for 1975-1976).

Unesco would be interested in being kept informed of any developments concerning the projects envisaged by WHO on this matter. We hope that the inter-secretariat WHO/Unesco meeting on coordination in early March 1975 will provide an opportunity to review the question.

Chapter 3 - Strengthening of health services

Unesco would be pleased to cooperate in the studies relevant to public health such as social programmes and 'community involvement in solving local health problems' mentioned in the section 'Research and development' item (b) (p. 117).

We note in the part of this chapter related to population that WHO, once again, confirms its policy towards the integration of its activities in this field into 'the strengthening of health services'. This approach provides ample basis for joint action in research activities and it is very analogical with our wish to see 'education of population as a part integrated with the process of development and restoration of education'.

Chapter 3 - Section 3.2 - Family Health

Close collaboration exists already in this area between WHO and Unesco, the latter deals mainly with health education and family planning programmes. The WHO programme in family health which specifically refers to continuing collaboration with Unesco, is therefore particularly welcome for the important dimension of cooperative action it offers in education, information, research and training activities.

Chapter 3 - Section 3.2 - item 3.2.4 - Nutrition

Because of grave and urgent food and nutrition problems affecting numerous populations around the world, Unesco views with satisfaction the further development of nutrition in the WHO Programme and Budget for 1976 and 1977. In particular, we have noted the WHO proposals to strengthen research and surveillance systems to support activities of operational levels, which is also of relevance to and in support of Unesco activities in the field of nutrition education. In building nutrition components into the educational systems at policy/planning, programme, and teaching levels reliable and up-to-date, substantive information is constantly needed and the Organization would value cooperation with WHO in this respect.

The research projects on xerophthalmia and nutrition and mental development are of much interest to Unesco.

Chapter 3 - Section 3.2 - item 3.2.5 - Health Education

The Organization has noted with satisfaction WHO's efforts to broaden the concepts of health education. Unesco, concerned with health education aspects of general education programmes, looks forward to further collaboration with WHO in that area, and in particular in 'the health education of school-age children and young people (in and out of school)' (page 145) and in the relevant multidisciplinary researches.

Unesco would like to participate in the meeting on education and treatment of human sexuality.

The Joint Unesco/WHO Consultation for communication and education for the Africa region is due in mid-1975 on the same basis as the one held for the Southeast Asia region in 1972. The meeting will outline the collaborative arrangements with WHO in 1976-1977 and beyond.

We expect that the regional offices of the WHO in Southeast Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Eastern Mediterranean will be actively collaborating with the International Audio Visual Resource Service which we have established in cooperation with the IPPF London. Collaboration with the WHO projects in Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific regions has already started and the details of such collaboration are being worked out.

Chapter 5 - Section 5.2 - item 5.2.6 - Mental Health

In examining this item we have noted in certain aspects the complementarity of the work of our two organizations.

Objectives stated by WHO 'to assess the magnitude and nature of . . . psychosocial problems, including alcoholism and drug dependence' (p. 236) are partly reflected in the activities foreseen in para. 3106 of our Programme and Budget for 1975-1976 (Document 18 C/5).

The approach is also similar when you suggest 'promoting the national and international collection and analysis . . . problems associated with the non medical use of dependence-producing drugs . . . ' (p. 236).

We have noted that in accordance with your plans for 1975-1976 'This programme area will concentrate initially on the contribution of the behavioural sciences to mental health programming and research . . . Special attention will be given to the cultural and other psychosocial factors . . . ' (p. 238). Close collaboration in these fields between WHO and Unesco will be valuable.

We hope that WHO will keep Unesco fully informed on these activities and our secretariat will not fail to keep WHO closely informed on the matter.

Chapter 6 - Promotion of environmental health

Close co-ordination is being achieved with the WHO activities related to water, particularly through the Division of Environmental Health. WHO will actively participate in two IHP projects related to WHO projects on monitoring of environmental pollution and hazards.

Unesco will participate in the WHO Regional Workshops on monitoring of water quality in the Danube Basin and plans are being worked out to associate WHO with the Seminar on Hydrological Aspects of Pollution in Europe to be convened by Unesco in 1977, but unfortunately your programme does not envisage any financial support for these activities (p. 296, International hydrological programme).

The two secretariats actively co-operate in the preparation of a Guide on Quality of Water Surveys which is expected to be published jointly by Unesco and WHO in 1976. Periodic consultations are held between the secretariats for harmonization of the respective programmes.

On the other hand, we note that in section 6.1.4 mention is made of the control of pollution from industrial wastes. We should be glad to have a representative of WHO at the meeting of the panel of consultants on the underground disposal of wastes, which we plan to convene at Unesco Headquarters in December 1975.

Many of the activities and project themes are of relevance to the MAB programme due to its holistic, interdisciplinary character and the emphasis on man's intervention in his environment and the effect that the environment may have on man, particularly after such intervention.

Health parameters are necessarily a part of human biology and human ecology considerations included in the elaboration of MAB pilot projects of integrated ecological research and related activities. Epidemiological considerations associated with ecosystem transformations and man-made modifications are always part of the discussions of MAB expert panels, working groups, regional and sub-regional meetings. In all of these meetings, WHO has been invited to participate and provide the necessary inputs, as a direct contribution to the interdisciplinary character of MAB. WHO's continued cooperation under this programme would be welcome.

With these comments in mind, Unesco looks forward to the further development of cooperation with WHO in the fields and international programmes which are mentioned above. We have not found, in examining this document, any cases of either serious overlapping or serious contradiction between the activities that you propose to undertake and Unesco's present and planned activities.

On the contrary, many of your proposed activities will, in our opinion, be a useful complement to our ongoing programmes."

5. WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (WMO)

"I note with particular satisfaction that the proposals include provision for collaboration with WMO under sub-item 6.1.4 entitled 'Control of Environmental Pollution and Hazards'. This is indeed a field which certainly offers opportunity for collaboration between WHO and WMO in the field of air and water, including coastal waters, pollution monitoring. I note also the general reference to collaboration with the specialized agencies in sub-item 2.2.2 entitled 'Co-ordination with other Organizations'.

I have no further specific comments to offer on this very informative document which has been studied with great interest by WMO. I wish, however, to take this opportunity of expressing once again, on behalf of WMO, our gratitude for the close collaboration that has developed between our two organizations and to confirm our belief that this collaboration will continue to strengthen and expand in the next years."

6. INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)*

"The document has been carefully reviewed within the Agency, and we are pleased to note the extent to which the collaboration between WHO and IAEA is reflected therein. We have the following minor comments:

In a few cases, specific reference is not made to certain joint on-going projects which may be expected to continue into 1976, and sometimes IAEA's participation is not indicated. Thus, the programme on Cardiovascular Diseases does not show that the co-ordinated programme on trace elements in cardiovascular diseases is a joint IAEA/WHO project, and the programme on Prophylactic, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Substances does not mention WHO's co-operation with IAEA in the co-ordinated programme on radiation sterilization of medical products and biological tissues.

Among projected programmes on which the two organizations have agreed to co-operate, we do not find reference to:

1. under Nutrition, the programme on the role of trace elements in nutrition;

2. under Promotion of Environmental Health, the two projects submitted jointly to UNEP on the development of environmental surveillance programmes related to the release of radio-active and other contaminants, and a third project, also submitted to UNEP, covering projected studies with UNSCEAR on radiation doses to the population resulting from the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

The Agency would indeed hope to participate in the proposed meeting of an 'IAEA/WHO expert committee' on the use of ionizing radiation and radionuclides for medical research, testing and non-medical purposes to be convened in 1977."

**WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION****ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ**1211 GENEVA 27 - SWITZERLAND
Telegr.: UNISANTE-Geneva1211 GENÈVE 27 - SUISSE
Télégr.: UNISANTÉ-Genève

Tél. 34 60 61 Télex. 27821

In reply please refer to: B6/370/2 (76/77)
Prière de rappeler la référence:

9 December 1974

Sir,

... I have the honour to transmit to you herewith Volume 220 of the Official Records of the World Health Organization containing the Proposed Programme Budget for the financial years 1976 and 1977, in accordance with the arrangements made by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and reflected in resolutions 1549 (XLIX) and 1643 (LI) adopted by the Economic and Social Council.

The Proposed Programme Budget is being sent to you at the same time as it is being transmitted to WHO Member States and Associate Members. The proposals contained therein will be considered by the Executive Board of the World Health Organization at its fifty-fifth session beginning 20 January 1975.

In order that the Executive Board may be fully apprised of any comments you may wish to make concerning programmes of your organization in related areas, such comments should be received by me not later than 13 January 1975.

In accordance with past procedure, we will transmit to you after the fifty-fifth session of the Executive Board an indication of the consideration given to such comments as you may transmit.

As the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination informed the Council in its Annual Report for 1972-1973, this formal phase of prior consultation is only one of a number of steps being taken to ensure that, where appropriate, programmes are complementary. You are aware of the steps which have been taken during the past year to undertake both formal and informal intersecretariat consultations well in advance of the preparation of the proposed programme budget of the Organization. It is my hope that continuing utilization of all the varied forms of early consultation will be of mutual benefit, particularly in the identification of those areas where joint or concerted action would be advantageous.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H. Mahler, M.D.
Director-General

... ENCL: (1) as mentioned

Annex

ADDRESSEES

United Nations

cc: Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA)

Economic Commission for Africa

Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA)

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

United Nations Environment Programme

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO)

International Atomic Energy Agency