

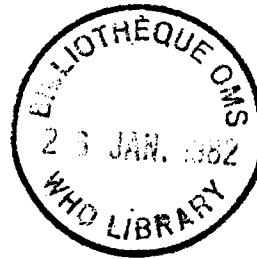


25 January 1982

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Sixty-ninth Session

Agenda items 34.1 and 34.2



INDEXED

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

*Stauden's
Ann. - Report
1981*

1. The Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations met first on 18 January 1982. The following members participated: Dr A. Al-Saif, Dr R. J. H. Kruisinga, Dr J. McHardy, Dr D. Nyam-Osor and Dr K. W. Ridings. Dr R. J. H. Kruisinga was elected Chairman.

Review of nongovernmental organizations in official relations with WHO

2. The Committee, in adopting its agenda, noted that one of the nongovernmental organizations to be reviewed during the Board's session was the World Medical Association. It also noted that certain developments arising out of the readmission of the Medical Association of South Africa by that organization had been referred to it by the Director-General for consideration.¹ The Committee decided to hold a second meeting on 22 January 1982 for consideration of this matter.
3. The Executive Board decided at its sixty-first session (January 1978), by resolution EB61.R38, to spread the triennial review of nongovernmental organizations in official relations with WHO over a three-year period, one-third of the organizations being reviewed each year. Accordingly, the Standing Committee had before it a working document² containing some general considerations concerning the review and a summary of the information relating to 44 nongovernmental organizations, including the Director-General's appraisal of existing collaboration with individual organizations. The organizations to be reviewed at this session were the last third of the total list, arranged according to the WHO programme classification structure; the list is reproduced in Annex 1. Thus organizations relating to the programmes ranging from 4.2.1 "Cancer" to 7.1.5 "Health information of the public" were the subject of the current review.
4. The Committee noted with satisfaction the progress being made towards the establishment of frameworks for joint collaboration between nongovernmental organizations and WHO, and particularly the activities initiated by the Director-General to involve nongovernmental organizations in areas where their particular expertise and energies could be effectively used in the light of the Global Strategy for Health for All. The Committee appreciated that these activities could lead to more active collaboration between nongovernmental organizations and national governments in the follow-up and implementation of important policy decisions taken by the collectivity of Member States in WHO's governing bodies. It recognized the importance of promoting a continuing dialogue between national governments and nongovernmental organizations - not only those with which WHO had official relations but also those with which WHO had working relations, and other relevant organizations at regional and national levels contributing significantly to health development.
5. The Committee then turned to consideration of the working document² dealing with the review of the nongovernmental organizations in official relations with WHO listed therein. After consideration of the information provided for each individual organization, supplemented by the Secretariat at the request of members, the Committee decided to recommend to the Executive Board that official relations be continued with 43 of the organizations reviewed. However, because there had been little collaboration during the past years with three organizations,

¹ Document EB69/NGO/WP/1 Add.1.

² Document EB69/NGO/WP/1.

the Committee considered that it would be useful to review relations with these organizations after one year, at its next review meeting in January 1983. The organizations were: the European Society for Clinical Investigation; the International Astronautical Federation; and the Medical Women's International Association.

Applications from nongovernmental organizations for admission into official relations with WHO

6. The Standing Committee had before it the applications submitted by the International Federation of Chemical, Energy and General Workers' Unions¹ and the International Council of Infant Food Industries.² Decisions on the admission of those organizations into official relations with WHO had been deferred by the Executive Board at its sixty-seventh session in order that further information on certain aspects of the applications arising out of its discussions could be obtained from the organizations concerned.³ The supplementary information on these questions from the two nongovernmental organizations was now before the Committee. In addition, the Committee had before it an application from the International Federation for Hygiene, Preventive and Social Medicine.⁴

7. In undertaking its examination of these applications, the Standing Committee was guided by the criteria in Part 1 of the Working Principles Governing the Admission of Nongovernmental Organizations into Official Relations with WHO.⁵

8. The examination was carried out on the basis of the documentation submitted by the three nongovernmental organizations, as well as on information supplied by the Secretariat at the request of members.

9. The Committee's recommendations were as follows:

(a) International Federation of Chemical, Energy and General Workers' Unions

The Committee took into account the supplementary information submitted by the International Federation of Chemical, Energy and General Workers' Unions, including the action taken by it regarding its Taiwan affiliate. However, in view of the fact that this organization is a labour union, and taking into consideration certain points made in this regard by members, the Committee decided to defer its decision on this application until fuller information was available on the Federation. In this respect, it was thought useful for the Committee to invite the Federation to a hearing for this purpose, possibly in May 1982. In the meanwhile, working relations should continue.⁶

(b) International Council of Infant Food Industries

After a careful review of the application from the International Council of Infant Food Industries, during which it took note of supplementary information furnished by the Council, the Committee decided to recommend to the Executive Board that a decision with regard to this application should be deferred until the seventy-first session of the Board in 1983, and that in the meanwhile working relations should continue and the activities of this organization in relation to the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes be observed.

¹ Document EB69/NGO/1.

² Document EB69/NGO/2.

³ Document EB67/1981/REC/1, decision EB67(15).

⁴ Document EB69/NGO/3.

⁵ WHO Basic Documents, 31st ed., 1981, pp. 71-72.

⁶ See also paragraphs 10-13.

(c) International Federation for Hygiene, Preventive and Social Medicine

The Committee reviewed the application from the International Federation for Hygiene, Preventive and Social Medicine. It considered that more information was required regarding the membership of this organization and its activities. The Committee therefore decided to recommend to the Executive Board that a decision on this application should be deferred until the seventy-first session of the Board in January 1983, and that in the meantime working relations should continue and the further information required should be obtained.

Second meeting of the Standing Committee

10. As decided at its first meeting, the Standing Committee met again on 22 January 1982 to review WHO's relations with the World Medical Association.

11. Following informal consultations, the Committee agreed to hear at this meeting, instead of the meeting proposed in May 1982, the representative of the International Federation of Chemical, Energy and General Workers' Unions (ICEF) to obtain further information on the Federation's application.

12. The Secretary-General of ICEF outlined to the Committee the objectives, membership and activities of his organization, with particular reference to activities in occupational and public health. Industrial, occupational and public health generally were established top-priority objectives of the general action programme of the Federation. He referred to a number of ICEF publications related to occupational and general health of workers.

13. The Committee, having taken into account the information provided, decided by majority to recommend the admission of the International Federation of Chemical, Energy and General Workers' Unions into official relations with WHO and the adoption of an appropriate resolution in this regard. It was agreed to record the dissenting view of one member that a trade union organization should not be admitted into official relations with WHO, as its primary function was that of a trade union and its admittedly considerable interest in matters related to health was secondary.

14. The Committee then took up the review of relations with the World Medical Association (WMA).¹ The Committee was informed that the Director-General had invited the World Medical Association, the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to be represented at this meeting under Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board,² by which the representatives of the Special Committee and OAU were entitled to participate without vote in the deliberations of the Committee. The Committee decided that the WMA representative could make a statement before it, as provided in Part 2(i) of the Working Principles Governing the Admission of Nongovernmental Organizations into Official Relations with WHO. The Committee also took into account the relevant documents on this subject,¹ including a recent communication from the Chairman of the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid (Annex 2 to this report).

15. In his statement before the Committee, the WMA representative referred to the letter of 10 November 1981 from the Secretary-General of WMA to WHO contained in document EB69/NGO/WP/1 Add.1 explaining the circumstances of the readmission of the Medical Association of South Africa to WMA. He reminded the Committee of the longstanding collaboration between WMA and WHO. He stated further that WMA was composed of national medical associations independent of their governments, and that no medical association could be held responsible for the policies of any given government. He believed that only through a close relationship

¹ Documents EB69/NGO/WP/1, EB69/NGO/WP/1 Add.1 and EB69/NGO/WP/1 Corr.1.

² WHO Basic Documents, 31st ed., 1981, pp. 133 and 134.

and exchange of information could difficult problems and situations be improved. Isolation in such circumstances would only make actions worse.

16. The representative of the United Nations Centre against Apartheid, which serves as the secretariat for the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid, referred to United Nations General Assembly resolution 36/172 L mentioned in the message from the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, which was the latest of a series of resolutions on this matter. He also raised the question of admission of the Transkei Medical Association to WMA, and referred to various resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly condemning the policy of "bantustanization" of South Africa.

17. The OAU representative stated that while OAU was aware of the technical contributions of WMA to and its useful collaboration with WHO, admission of the Medical Association of South Africa by WMA had created a grave situation for the African countries. That act was in violation of the spirit and principles of many resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, as well as the principles and aims for which WHO was established. He also referred to the status of the Transkei Medical Association and stated that its admission by WMA was also in violation of the General Assembly's resolutions. His organization, as well as the African States, took the problem extremely seriously and he hoped that the Standing Committee would take appropriate decisions by recommending the exclusion of the WMA from official relations with WHO.

18. The Committee then discussed this matter and, having taken into account the various aspects of the issue, decided by majority opinion to recommend to the Executive Board that official relations with the World Medical Association be discontinued, and that it be readmitted, on application, if it reversed its decision on the readmission to membership of the Medical Association of South Africa. One member of the Committee expressed the view that while discontinuing official relations, WHO should continue to have working relations with WMA for a limited period until it reversed its position on readmission of the Medical Association of South Africa.

19. The Standing Committee decided to recommend that the Executive Board:

(a) adopt the following resolution:

COORDINATION WITH NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND APPLICATIONS OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR ADMISSION INTO OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH WHO

The Executive Board,

Having examined the report of the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations;¹

1. Decides to discontinue official relations with the World Medical Association; however, it may be readmitted, on application, if it reverses its position regarding readmission of the Medical Association of South Africa.
2. Decides to admit the International Federation of Chemical, Energy and General Workers' Unions into official relations with WHO.

(b) adopt the following decision:

The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations,¹ decided to maintain official relations with 43 of the 44 nongovernmental organizations reviewed at its current session, relations with the European Society for Clinical Investigation, the International Astronautical Federation,

¹ Document EB69/38.

and the Medical Women's International Association, being reviewed again at the Board's seventy-first session in January 1983, and expressed its appreciation to those organizations for their valuable collaboration. It further decided to defer its decision on the establishment of official relations with the International Council of Infant Food Industries and the International Federation for Hygiene, Preventive and Social Medicine until the Board's seventy-first session; in the meantime, working relations should continue.

NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH WHO

ORGANIZATIONS ARRANGED ACCORDING TO WHO PROGRAMME CLASSIFICATION STRUCTURE

Programme

2. GENERAL PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

2.2 General programme development and management

2.2.3 Information systems programme

International Federation for Information Processing

2.4 Research promotion and development

Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences
International Council of Scientific Unions
International Union of Biological Sciences

3. DEVELOPMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES

3.1 Health services development

3.1.1 Health services planning and management

International Epidemiological Association
International Hospital Federation
International Society for Burn Injuries
International Union of Architects
World Federation of Public Health Associations
World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists

3.1.2 Primary health care

African Medical and Research Foundation International
Christian Medical Commission
Commonwealth Medical Association
International Committee of the Red Cross
International Council on Jewish Social and Welfare Services
International Council on Social Welfare
International Organization for Cooperation in Health Care (Medicus Mundi Internationalis)
International Sociological Association
League of Red Cross Societies
International Council of Women

3.1.3 Workers' health

International Association of Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health
International Ergonomics Association
Permanent Commission and International Association on Occupational Health

3.1.4 Care of aged, disability prevention and rehabilitation

International Association for Accident and Traffic Medicine
International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatics
International Federation of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
International Society of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology

Rehabilitation International
World Confederation for Physical Therapy
World Federation of the Deaf
World Federation of Occupational Therapists
World Veterans Federation

3.1.5 Appropriate technology for health

International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering

3.2 Family health

3.2.0 Programme planning and general activities

International Planned Parenthood Federation
The Population Council

3.2.1 Maternal and child health

International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics
International Paediatric Association
International Union of School and University Health and Medicine

3.2.2 Nutrition

International Union of Nutritional Sciences

3.2.3 Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction

International Federation of Fertility Societies

3.2.4 Health education

International Union for Health Education

3.3 Mental health

International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions
International Association for Suicide Prevention
International Brain Research Organization
International Council on Alcohol and Addictions
International Federation of Multiple Sclerosis Societies
International League against Epilepsy
International Union for Child Welfare
Joint Commission on International Aspects of Mental Retardation
World Federation for Mental Health
World Federation of Neurology
World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies
World Psychiatric Association

3.4 Prophylactic, diagnostic and therapeutic substances

3.4.1 Drug policies and management

World Federation of Proprietary Medicine Manufacturers

Annex 1

3.4.2 Pharmaceuticals and biologicals

International Association of Medical Laboratory Technologists
International Council for Laboratory Animal Science
International Federation of Clinical Chemistry
International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations
International Pharmaceutical Federation
International Society of Blood Transfusion
International Society of Endocrinology
International Society of Hematology
International Union of Pharmacology
International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
World Federation of Associations of Clinical Toxicology Centers and Poison Control Centers
World Federation of Hemophilia

4. DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

4.1 Communicable disease prevention and control

4.1.1 Epidemiological surveillance

International Air Transport Association

4.1.2 Malaria and other parasitic diseases

International Society of Chemotherapy
World Federation of Parasitologists

4.1.3 Bacterial, viral and mycotic diseases

International Hydatidological Association
International Leprosy Association
International Society for Human and Animal Mycology
International Union Against Tuberculosis
International Union against the Venereal Diseases and the Treponematoses
International Union of Microbiological Societies
World Veterinary Association

4.1.7 Prevention of blindness

International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness
International Federation of Ophthalmological Societies
International Organization against Trachoma
World Council for the Welfare of the Blind

4.2 Noncommunicable disease prevention and control

4.2.1 Cancer

International Academy of Pathology
International Association of Cancer Registries
International Council of Societies of Pathology
International Union against Cancer
World Association of Societies of (Anatomic and Clinical) Pathology

4.2.2 Cardiovascular diseases

International Federation of Sports Medicine
International Society and Federation of Cardiology

4.2.3 Oral health

International Dental Federation

4.2.4 Other noncommunicable diseases

European Society for Clinical Investigation
International Association for the Study of the Liver
International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements
International Commission on Radiological Protection
International Cystic Fibrosis (Mucoviscidosis) Association
International Diabetes Federation
International Electrotechnical Commission
International League against Rheumatism
International Radiation Protection Association
International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technicians
International Society of Radiology
World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology

4.2.5 Immunology

International Union of Immunological Societies

5. PROMOTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

5.1 Promotion of environmental health

5.1.0 Programme planning and general activities

International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

5.1.1 Environmental health planning and management

International Federation for Housing and Planning
International Union of Local Authorities

5.1.2 Basic sanitary measures

Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering
International Association on Water Pollution Research
International Solid Wastes and Public Cleansing Association
International Water Supply Association

5.1.3 Recognition and control of environmental hazards

International Association of Environmental Mutagen Societies
International Astronautical Federation
International Society of Biometeorology

6. HEALTH MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

6.1 Health manpower development

International College of Surgeons
International Committee of Catholic Nurses
International Confederation of Midwives
International Council of Nurses
International Federation of Medical Student Associations

Annex 1

International Federation of Surgical Colleges
Medical Women's International Association
The World Medical Association
World Federation for Medical Education

7. HEALTH INFORMATION

7.1 Health information

7.1.1 Health statistics

The Biometric Society
International Federation of Health Record Organizations
International Organization for Standardization

7.1.5 Health information of the public

World Federation of United Nations Associations

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID

newyork (unny) 20 1751z

map0963-01 ansarkhan from reddy please convey following message from his excellency alhaji yusuff maitama-sule chairman special committee against apartheid to world health organization quote i wish thank you for your invitation to special committee to participate in meeting standing committee who executive board during consideration official relations with world medical association stop regret unable to send representative due short notice and would appreciate convey following message to standing committee and executive board para special committee against apartheid has noted with great regret and indignation that wma decided to readmit medical association of south africa ignoring numerous appeals by medical associations comma medical and health personnel in south africa comma and antiapartheid groups as well as special committee stop masa is an institution within apartheid system comma condemned by international community as criminal stop it has virtually condoned behaviour of doctors involved in murder of steve biko comma south african patriot comma despite demands for action by leading medical experts concerned over medical ethics para wma has further defied international community by admitting medical association of transkei stop special committee recalls that united nations has unanimously denounced so-called quote independence unquote of this bantustan and called on all governments and organizations to refrain from any recognition of or cooperation with it para special committee considers that collaboration with apartheid regime and institutions by non-governmental organizations associated with united nations and specialized agencies is totally inadmissible stop it draws attention to united nations general assembly resolution 36/172 1 adopted on 17 december 1981 calling upon all non-governmental organizations which have not yet done so to desist from any form of collaboration with apartheid regime and institutions based on racial discrimination in south africa para i trust that who will demand that wma cease forthwith its collaboration with apartheid and bantustans and decide to suspend relations with wma pending such action unquote (reddy)



EXECUTIVE BOARD

Sixty-ninth Session

Agenda items 34.1 and 34.2

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

In paragraph 16 of its report dated 25 January 1982 (document EB69/38), the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations refers to United Nations General Assembly resolution 36/172 L, the text of which is attached for the information of members of the Executive Board.



RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS
THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

36/172 - Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa

L

Public information and public action against apartheid and role of mass media in the struggle against apartheid

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the important role of non-governmental organizations and of public action in the international campaign against apartheid,

Recognizing further the importance of public information and the role of mass media in combating apartheid and promoting international action for the eradication of apartheid,

Recognizing, in particular, the need to encourage trade union action for sanctions against South Africa,

Noting with appreciation the co-operation of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organisation and other agencies in this respect,

Noting with great regret the actions of some non-governmental organizations which are actively collaborating with the apartheid régime of South Africa,

Recognizing, in particular, the need to encourage trade union action for sanctions against apartheid,

Having considered the Declaration of the International Seminar on Publicity and Role of Mass Media in the International Mobilization against Apartheid,¹²² held at Berlin, German Democratic Republic, from 31 August to 2 September 1981,

Recalling and reaffirming its resolutions 34/93 L and M of 12 December 1979,

1. Commends all anti-apartheid and solidarity movements, trade unions, religious bodies, student and youth organizations and other non-governmental organizations which have made a vital contribution to the international campaign against apartheid;

2. Commends the Declaration of the International Seminar on Publicity and Role of Mass Media in the International Mobilization against Apartheid to the attention of all Governments, organizations and the media;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to take steps for the widest dissemination of the Berlin Declaration;

4. Requests the Special Committee against Apartheid to take all appropriate action towards the implementation of the recommendations of the International Seminar on Publicity and Role of Mass Media in the International Mobilization against Apartheid, including the publication of expert studies and the organization of national and regional seminars for journalists;

5. Requests the Secretary-General and the Special Committee to give special attention to encouraging action by non-governmental organizations and the mass media in the international campaign against apartheid;

¹²² A/36/496-S/14686, annex I.

6. Authorizes the Special Committee to promote the organization of the International Conference of Trade Unions on Sanctions against South Africa;¹²³
7. Calls upon all non-governmental organizations which have not yet done so to desist from any form of collaboration with the apartheid régime and institutions based on racial discrimination in South Africa;
8. Requests the Secretary-General to lend his co-operation to the Special Committee in investigating and publicizing the collaboration of certain non-governmental organizations with the apartheid régime and institutions of South Africa, and in persuading them to desist from such collaboration;
9. Appeals to all Governments to contribute generously to the Trust Fund for Publicity against Apartheid;
10. Approves the recommendations of the Special Committee contained in paragraph 401 of its report¹²⁴ and authorizes it to initiate a feature service on apartheid;
11. Requests the Special Committee to continue and intensify co-operation with non-governmental organizations and with the Non-governmental Organizations Sub-Committee on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Apartheid and Decolonization in promoting the widest public mobilization for sanctions against South Africa and assistance to the national liberation movement of South Africa.

¹²³ See A/36/L.41.

¹²⁴ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 22 (A/36/22 and Corr.1).