

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATIONORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉSECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLYA2/60 ✓
15 June 1949

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CO-OPERATION WITH THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
(Provisional Agenda item 8.19.2.1)

1. Following recommendations contained in the report of the Expert Committee on Venereal Diseases, the Executive Board at its second session¹ decided to request the assistance of the Economic Commission for Europe to survey the UNRRA penicillin plants with a view to their rehabilitation. The importance of increasing the availability of all types of pharmaceutical and sanitary supplies was later emphasised at a meeting of war-devastated countries in Europe on 15-16 November 1948 in relation to setting up the Special Office for Europe. The Conference requested joint WHO/ECE action in this field.
2. Co-operation between the two Secretariats was established before the end of 1948. The Secretariat of ECE is assisting the Secretariat of WHO on economic and technical aspects of these problems, e.g., requirements and availabilities of raw materials and equipment, technical information on production processes and obstacles to trade.
3. In view of the great importance of stimulating penicillin production in countries where it does not now exist, joint WHO/ECE action was directed initially towards formulating a programme with the Governments of Czechoslovakia, Poland and Yugoslavia for getting their UNRRA donated penicillin plants into operation.²
4. The Secretariats of WHO and ECE are now engaged in a study of economic and technical aspects of other essential medical supplies. However the information collected to date is not sufficiently detailed to formulate a full programme of action for submission to the Assembly.

The Assembly may therefore wish to consider the following recommendation:

The Second World Health Assembly

APPROVES the provisional programme of action evolved jointly with the Economic Commission for Europe, of assisting the Governments of Czechoslovakia, Poland and Yugoslavia in the modernization of their UNRRA donated penicillin plants;

REQUESTS the Director-General to continue co-operation with the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Europe with a view to increasing the availability of other essential medical supplies, particularly for the war damaged countries of Europe.

¹
² Off.Rec.World Hlth Org. 14, 19, item 1.10 para. 1
Ibid, 17, 13, item 3.6 para. 2