

WORLD HEALTH  
ORGANIZATIONORGANISATION MONDIALE  
DE LA SANTÉSECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLYA2/VR/10  
30 June 1949

## TENTH PLENARY MEETING

Palazzo Venezia, Rome  
Thursday, 30 June, 1949, at 11.45 a.m.

## Provisional Verbatim Record

PRESIDENT: Dr. K. EVANG (Norway)  
later: Dr. N. SCANDER, Pasha (Egypt)

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Note: This provisional record contains the originals of speeches delivered in English and the interpretations of other speeches. All speeches will be published in the final records of the Assembly in either the original or an authentic translation.

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1. DATE OF CLOSURE OF THE SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

The PRESIDENT: The meeting is called to order. I have the honour to call upon His Excellency, Dr. Scander, Pasha, Vice-President, to take the chair to-day.

Dr. Scander, Pasha (Egypt) took the chair.

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: It gives me great pleasure and it is a special honour to have the opportunity of presiding at this plenary meeting, thanks to the courtesy of our President, Dr. Evang.

We shall now proceed to the first item of the agenda of the Assembly. The General Committee has fixed the date of adjournment of the Second World Health Assembly as Saturday, 2 July. Any objections? No objections. Adopted.

✓ 2. TIME AND PLACE OF THE THIRD WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: The Executive Board at its third session recommended to the Assembly the holding of the Third World Health Assembly at Geneva on or about 15 May, 1950. The Secretary-General of the United Nations has informed us, the World Health Organization, that it would be preferable for reasons already explained in document A2/23 to advance it eight days, that is to 8 May, if the Assembly decides that the site of the Third World Health Assembly should be in Geneva. Any objections? No objections. Accepted.

I recognize the delegate of the United States of America.

✱ Dr. SCHEELE (United States of America): Although we are now discussing where next to meet in Assembly, permit me to look one more year ahead to the Fourth World Health Assembly in 1951.

When we agree that it would be wise to meet in Geneva every second year we have two fundamental reasons in mind; first, that delegations from all lands should have occasion regularly with their own eyes to see the great headquarters where their decisions are translated into action; second, that the Palais des Nations offers all the technical facilities required by such a great meeting.

When we also agree that in alternate years the Assembly might profitably be held elsewhere it is because the World Health Organization needs to make itself known in other countries through the presence of its supreme authority, the Assembly.

May I remind you that the World Health Organization was born in our country on 22 July, 1946, when the Interim Commission received its mandate from the International Health Conference. The Organization will be five years old when the Fourth World Health Assembly convenes. It will have grown in stature as in power and will have set its mark upon public health work throughout the world. The American people need to see in their midst the living reality of that great organization which has been growing almost without their being aware of it.

The Fourth World Health Assembly will be warmly welcomed in the United States. The pride aroused by its presence should provoke a permanent interest in this great cause in far wider circles than is now the case. I may add that all the technical facilities which can be desired will be available, so that the inconveniences of displacement will be held at a minimum.

As Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service I speak for my co-workers in many institutes of research and medical care. We are eager to open our laboratories to colleagues from all countries and also to show them our operating programmes in action. A fruitful exchange of views will surely follow. I know that these feelings are shared by the heads of Federal agencies responsible for other programmes of research, training and medical care as well as by institutions outside the Government.

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America I invite the Fourth World Health Assembly to meet at Washington in 1951.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: I thank Dr. Scheele for the kind invitation of the United States and it will be considered, of course, at the next World Health Assembly.

✓ 3. ADOPTION OF REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMME

✓ Fifth Report of the Committee on Programme (A2/89)

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: An amendment is to be introduced in the text as follows: page 3, paragraph 3 of the resolution: delete "or" at the beginning of the second line and insert "and".

Any objections? This report is adopted.

✓ Sixth Report of the Committee on Programme (A2/91)

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: The question has been raised of the relations between UNICEF and WHO during the period which lies ahead of us and which will elapse before the World Health Organization takes over these projects. It is my understanding that during this period WHO will continue its collaboration with UNICEF along the same lines as now, through the Joint Committee on Health Policy UNICEF/WHO,

Is this acceptable to you? Any objections? No objections.  
The sixth report is accepted.

✓ Seventh Report of the Committee on Programme (A2/92)

✓ The ACTING PRESIDENT: Any objections? The seventh report is accepted.

✓ Eighth Report of the Committee on Programme (A2/93)

✓ The ACTING PRESIDENT: Any objections? The eighth report is accepted.

✓ Ninth Report of the Committee on Programme (A2/101)

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: Any objections? The delegate of Bulgaria.

x Dr. STOYANOFF (Bulgaria) (Interpretation from the French): In the ninth report of the Committee on Programme on page 2, item 2 "Assistance to Displaced Persons", we come back to the resolution of the delegation of Greece regarding aid to refugees in that country. We are sorry to have to come back once again on this question, but it is the viewpoint of our delegation that it is a fundamentally serious matter. It is true that the Greek resolution was amended by the Egyptian delegate but, in our opinion, the problem remains the same. When the Economic and Social Council considers the question, it will be obvious that it concerns primarily Greece. In that case, should we intervene in a civil war, in an ideological war? Should we help a

government that puts all its available resources into fighting a part of its own population - a government which disposes of the means to fight but has not the means to take care of the most essential needs of its population? We know that warfare nowadays is total, that anything that can help one side is a disadvantage for the other. As an international, specialized organization of a technical nature we have nothing to do with politics. If we vote this resolution we shall have created a very bad precedent. Let us leave this question to the organizations that are concerned with the matter, and let us take no position whatsoever. That will be the best policy. That is the way in which our Organization will come out of this test with renewed strength. Consequently, our delegation proposes that we adopt the ninth report of the Committee on Programme as it stands now, with item 2 deleted.

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: The delegate of Greece.

x Dr. BRISKAS (Greece) (Interpretation from the French): It was not my intention to speak but as I feel obliged to do so I have come here to express the view of my country. At the last meeting of the Committee on Programme, our delegation asked for the floor in order to explain our position before the close of the discussion, but as there were many speakers on the list already, time did not permit of our doing so before the closure of the debate.

I should like to emphasise, having listened to the speeches of the other delegates, that Greece fully realizes that there are other nations in distress which have the same problems as ourselves. You all know the point of view I have maintained since the First Health Assembly; whenever a question involving humanitarian considerations has been raised I have spoken upon it in plenary sessions or in committee.

To me it is amazing that when Greece describes the acute urgency of her situation - a deplorable one from the health point of view - political considerations should arise in this assembly, and I wonder why the raising of such questions has been permitted. As a world health organization we should concern ourselves only with health. Each country has the right to present its case from the humanitarian and health point of view. Greece, in common with other countries, has the right to ask for help in respect of the health conditions of that country.

I believe that at present my country is threatened by serious epidemics. Under these circumstances, if political considerations are allowed to intervene you will have the grave responsibility of having failed to give immediate consideration to this question.

I am no politician, but a doctor; my interest lies in all humanitarian questions and I am putting forward our case for that reason only. In requesting a special mention of Greece, we do so simply because of the extreme urgency of her position. If other countries have similar problems to bring forward they have an equal right to submit them. Hence, I believe that specific mention should have been made of Greece, but this has not been done. Nevertheless, we have adopted this resolution, thus indicating our acceptance of the position.

I have no wish to detain the Assembly longer over this question, which has already been fully discussed by the head of our delegation, but I repeat that in my opinion the Organization should concern itself with humanitarian and health questions, and we have not the right to raise political questions. I feel sure that the Organization is destined one day to have as its emblem the olive branch, the symbol of peace.

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: Any other comments? The delegate of the United States.

x Dr. SCHEELE (United States of America): I cannot see that this resolution before us really amounts to very much and says very much. It is proposed that we draw the attention of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to the health problems of refugees. We know that, in the case of Greece, the Greek Government has already called the attention of the Economic and Social Council to their problems. We have the greatest sympathy for refugees and appreciate the fact that one can sometimes have health problems of major importance in refugee and displaced persons' groups. Yet, in the case of the Greek situation, we have no tangible evidence before us regarding the health problems. I do not want to deny for a moment that there is one, yet it seems to me that in those instances in which the Director-General of the World Health Organization has to call the attention of some other organization to a health problem, he would at least have to investigate the health situation in question.

We should like to object to the passing of this proposed resolution, purely on medical grounds. Our objections are not of a similar nature to those of the delegate of Bulgaria. We believe it is a proper function of WHO to concern itself with all health problems. A sick child, communicable diseases, are not essentially different in refugee groups than they are in the ordinary groups than they are in the ordinary groups of citizens of any country, and we believe, therefore, it is part of the work of WHO to concern itself with these things. We should be very disappointed if WHO placed itself in the position of calling attention to a problem regarding which its own staff had not had time to make adequate reconnaissance and on which there is, at this moment at least, no tangible evidence of existence.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: Any other discussion? The delegate of Hungary wishes to speak.

Dr. SIMONOVITS (Hungary): In the Committee on Programme we have already discussed the paper submitted by the delegation of Greece. Although we have the greatest sympathy for the suffering Greek people, nevertheless the delegation of Hungary has also to cast its vote against the resolution.

The delegation of Hungary fully shares the views of the delegation of Bulgaria. There are other international organizations for these special purposes, the International Red Cross and the United Nations International Refugee Organization. That is the reason why the Hungarian delegation supports the Bulgarian proposal. So far we have tried to solve our problems leaving out politics, but if this question is raised we must ask also what will happen in regard to other refugees. What will happen to the Greek people who are fighting in the mountains for their liberty against this government? Who will help them? These and like questions are purely political, and the Hungarian delegation is convinced that we are all agreed that we must not allow the World Health Organization to be used for aims which are unrelated to its present task. Therefore, the Hungarian delegation supports strongly the proposal made by the Bulgarian delegation.

Dr. NAZIF, Bey (Egypt): I beg to refer back to the wording of the second item of the report. This resolution relates to general conditions. It does not relate to any specified country. The wording of the resolution reads:

"Considering the disastrous consequences of the situation of displaced persons in different parts of the world as regards its health aspects as well as the risk of epidemics in their respective regions...."

We did not talk about refugees. We talked about displaced persons in different parts of the world: not in one part only. Again, I stress that we are referring to displaced persons and the important imminent danger to public health that might arise from such conditions. There is nothing in this item except the pointing out of the situation from this health point of view on the general question. There is no other point of view. We are all here to collaborate towards one and only one object, and that is the health welfare of the world. We are here to combat epidemics and to ameliorate the sufferings of mankind, regardless of nationality or religion. On that basis only we ask you to approve the resolution and to adopt the report as a whole, including item 2.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: Any other comments, please ?

To sum up, Bulgaria proposes the deletion of paragraph 2, the United States of America supports the proposal of Bulgaria, Hungary also supports the proposal of Bulgaria, Egypt supports the resolution and moves the adoption of the ninth report of the Committee on Programme.

We shall now proceed to vote on the Bulgarian proposal. Those in favour of the Bulgarian proposal will please their cards. Thirteen in favour. Those against this proposal ? There are 13 votes for and 26 against the proposal of Bulgaria. Therefore the proposal is defeated.

We shall now vote on the ninth report of the Committee on Programme.

Any comments, any objections ? There being no objections, the ninth report of the Committee on Programme is adopted.

Tenth Report of the Committee on Programme (A2/102)

The ACTING PRESIDENT: Any objections ? The tenth report of the Committee on Programme is accepted.

Eleventh Report of the Committee on Programme (A2/103)

The ACTING PRESIDENT: Any objections ? No objections. The eleventh report of the Committee on Programme is accepted.

4. ADOPTION OF REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Third Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance (A2/98)

The ACTING PRESIDENT: we now proceed to consider the third report of the Committee on Administration and Finance. Are there any objections, please?

The report is accepted.

Fourth Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance (A2/104)

The ACTING PRESIDENT: The Fourth Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance. Any comment? No objections? The report is accepted.

Fifth Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance (A2/105)

The ACTING PRESIDENT: The Fifth Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance. Are there any objections?

The fifth report is accepted.

Sixth Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance (A2/109 Rev.1)

The ACTING PRESIDENT: A new item in the agenda is being inserted now concerning the Sixth Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance, A2/109/Rev.1, which will be read by the Rapporteur of the committee.

Mr. LINDSAY (United Kingdom), Rapporteur of the Committee on Administration and Finance: The Sixth Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance. The first part of the report is the appropriation resolution.

The Committee on Administration and Finance decided to recommend to the Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

Appropriation Resolution

I. The Second World Health Assembly resolves that for the financial year 1950 the Regular Administrative and Operating Programme Budget is as follows:

Appropriation Section	Purpose of Appropriation	US \$
<b>PART I - ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET</b>		
1	Organizational Meetings .....	229,000
2	Administrative Expenses .....	<u>1,188,875</u>
	Total PART I .....	<u><u>1,417,875</u></u>
<b>PART II - OPERATING PROGRAMME BUDGET</b>		
3	Operating Programmes .....	
Chapter		
3.1	Operating Supervisory Staff .....	266,850
3.2	Regional Offices .....	<u>902,535</u>
3.3	Other Offices .....	<u>71,925</u>
3.4	Advisory and Demonstration Services to Governments .....	<u>1,819,870</u>
3.5	Technical Training of Medical and Auxiliary Personnel .....	<u>779,380</u>
3.6	Medical Literature and Teaching Equipment..	<u>75,000</u>
3.7	Technical Services .....	<u>1,373,470</u>
3.8	Expert Committees .....	<u>253,815</u>

3.9	Supplies to Governments .....	115,000
3.10	Common Services for Part II, except chapters 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 .....	425,780
	Total Section 3 .....	6,083,625
	TOTAL ALL PARTS .....	7,501,500

Amounts not exceeding the above shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred during the period 1 January 1950 to 31 December 1950.

II. The Director-General is authorized, with respect to Part II of the Budget, in urgent circumstances, to transfer credits between chapters and, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, or of any committee to which it may delegate authority, to transfer credits between sections.

III. The Director-General shall report to the next subsequent regular session of the Executive Board all transfers made under the authority of paragraph II hereof, together with the circumstances relating thereto.

IV. Notwithstanding the provisions of Financial Regulation 13, the Director-General is authorized to transfer to the ensuing year the unexpended balances of allotments (made under the provisions of Financial Regulation 10) made to countries for Fellowships, under chapter 3.5 of section 3 of Part II, and for Medical Literature and Teaching Equipment, chapter 3.6 of the same section.

V. With respect to advisory and demonstration services to governments, the Director-General shall, in consultation with the receiving governments, take steps to recover the depreciated value of non-expendable equipment which may be left in the country after a demonstration team completes its work and such part of the cost of expendable materials and supplies as the governments are willing to repay, which repayment may be made by governments in their own currencies. The Director-General, prior to the furnishing of these services should, if possible, reach agreement in advance as to the willingness of governments to make such payments under the provisions of this paragraph.

Mr. President, I omitted to read a footnote which attaches to the total amount of all parts of the budget; namely, \$7,501,500. The footnote is:

"The estimated income to be available in 1950 is \$501,500 which after being applied to this appropriation provides for a contribution to be made by governments of \$7,000,000."

The ~~Sixth~~ Report of the Committee on Administration and Finance contains the further paragraph:

The committee agreed to recommend that the Health Assembly adopt the following resolution.

The Second World Health Assembly

RESOLVES that, in approving the Appropriation Resolution for the Regular Administrative and Operating Programme Budget for the financial year 1950, the Health Assembly emphasizes that it in no way commits the Third, or subsequent World Health Assemblies to any particular levels of expenditure.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: Are there any objections to the adoption of this report? No objections. The report is accepted.

5. ADOPTION OF REPORTS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMME AND ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

First Report of the Joint Committees on Programme and Administration and Finance (A2/107)

The ACTING PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed to the next item, the First Report of the Joint Committees on Programme and Administration and Finance. Will the rapporteur please come forward. Are there any objections to the report? The delegate of France.

Dr. DUJARRIC DE LA RIVIERE (France) (Interpretation from the French): In conformity with the instructions received from its government, the French delegation has voted in the committee on the different resolutions relating to the budget and the working capital fund with the object of securing a reasonable financial position for the Organization and at the same time of ensuring that the French contribution should not exceed the maximum amount envisaged by our Government. The ignorance

in which we still find ourselves about the adjusted scale of contributions which will certainly result from the various changes in the Organization itself, makes it impossible for us to know whether or not this amount has been exceeded. The French delegation can but state that it will inform its Government of the conditions under which the budget and the working capital fund were finally adopted.

At the same time the French delegation wants to state here that it can only reserve the position of the French Government and Parliament as regards contributions to the supplementary budget. If this contribution is agreed to by the Government and Parliament, it can only be paid in French currency.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: Are there any objections to the First Report of the Joint Committees on Programme and Administration and Finance?  
No objections.

The report is adopted.

✓ Second Report of the Joint Committees on Programme and Administration and Finance (Document A2/100)

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: We pass now to the Second Report of the Joint Committees on Programme and Administration and Finance. Any comments?  
No objection. The report is adopted.

✓ Third Report of the Joint Committee on Programme and Administration and Finance (Document A2/108)

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: Third Report of the Joint Committee on Programme and Administration and Finance. Any objections? The delegate of the United Kingdom.

x Dr. MACKENZIE (United Kingdom): I should just like to suggest an amendment on page 4 of this document, to the second paragraph. Both doctors and nurses are equally members of learned professions and I think the word "assistant" is inappropriate. I would suggest therefore, that the second paragraph on page 4 read "Whereas it is necessary to ensure recruitment" and that we erase the words "of these assistants". There would be a consequential alteration in the third paragraph: "Whereas it is necessary in all countries to give them the training" -- so as to omit the word "assistants".

THE ACTING PRESIDENT: Are there any objections to the amendment presented by the delegate of the United Kingdom? No objections. The amendment is adopted. Are there any objections to the whole report as amended? No objections? Then the third report is adopted.

6. ADDITION OF REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
Fifth Report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters (A2/96)

THE ACTING PRESIDENT: We come to the Fifth Report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters. Are there any comments, please? No objections?  
The report of the committee is accepted.

Sixth Report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters (A2/99)

THE ACTING PRESIDENT: We pass to the Sixth Report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters. The delegate of Bulgaria.

Dr. STOYANOFF (Bulgaria): For the reasons stated in Annex A, our delegation will abstain from voting on point 5 of document A2/99 and we shall also vote against point 1.2 of the report.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT: We have heard the comments of the delegate of Bulgaria on this report. Any other comments?

The delegate of Poland.

Dr. DOMANSKA (Poland) (Interpretation from the French): It is against my will that I take the floor in this discussion. It is very disagreeable to be compelled to talk against the admission of a Member to an Organization such as ours, the success of which depends on the co-operation of the entire world for a common achievement. However, I consider it my duty to oppose, on behalf of my government, the admission of South Korea to WHO. We have already refused the admission of San Marino, in view of the fact that the status of that country was not sufficiently clear from the legal point of view. However, the status of Korea is even less clear. What is more, we know that there are two Koreas, and it is not for us to decide which has the more right to represent the interests of the Korean people. The position of South Korea is even less clear than that of Northern Korea, since it is difficult to speak of the independence of a country which is still occupied by foreign occupation troops.

The situation in some ways resembles that of Occupied Germany. Germany is not a Member of WHO, and nobody is surprised at that fact for the time being. Why, then, should we now have to consider the admission of Korea? Why not await the decision of the United Nations pertaining to the legal status of one or the other Korea? We have often spoken against politics in our discussions. It is in the interest of the non-political character of WHO that the Polish delegation is opposed to paragraph 1.2 of the Sixth Report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: Any other comments or objections? The delegate of Egypt.

X Dr. NAZIF Bey (Egypt): I have nothing to say as regards this item except that the delegate of Bulgaria has referred to the case of San Marino. The reason why San Marino was not admitted was that the Republic of San Marino had announced that it could not withdraw its reservation concerning its financial contribution, which I think is against the Constitution.

X Dr. EJERCITO (Philippines): I should just like to say that in the meeting of the Committee the matter of the admission of South Korea was thoroughly considered. The Committee was practically unanimous in recommending this admission on the ground that that country had already received recognition from several nations. In view of this fact, I do not think that the statement made by the delegate of Poland to the effect that the status of Korea - South Korea - is still uncertain, is quite correct. In view of the willingness of this country to co-operate with other nations for the promotion of health, especially in the Western Pacific area, I should like to recommend its admission.

X The ACTING PRESIDENT: The Director-General will kindly give us a short explanation, of this question so that it will be clear to everyone.

X The DIRECTOR-GENERAL: It should be made clear that the action that is proposed by the Committee on Constitutional Matters would not have the effect of seating the delegation from South Korea in this Assembly as a voting Member. That could not take place until there had been a deposit of an instrument of adherence to the Constitution with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. That has not taken place. The action proposed by

the Committee on Constitutional Matters would simply clear the way for the deposit of such an instrument and the acceptance of South Korea as a Member of the Organization.

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: We will then proceed to vote on the proposal as advanced by the delegate of Bulgaria and supported by the delegate of Poland.

The delegate of Albania wishes to speak.

f Dr. KLOSI (Albania) (Interpretation from the French): On behalf of the Albanian delegation I should like only to add a few words. The decision we are going to take now concerns a very delicate matter. It seems to me that our Assembly is considering matters belonging to the internal situation of countries. We know that there is a Southern Korea and a Northern Korea. On behalf of my delegation I should be very happy to welcome here the delegation of Korea but the question is, who is to represent Korea? As far as we are concerned we do not know what the present government of the Korea is, nor what is the Korean nation. I think that we are showing too much haste now by taking a vote on this matter. As has been said since its foundation in New York, our Organization should not let itself be involved in political matters, but should exclusively pursue scientific objectives. If we take a vote now on the admission of Southern Korea we shall create a precedent. Therefore I very strongly support the proposal put forward by the delegation of Bulgaria and supported already by the delegation of Poland; namely to postpone a vote on the admission of Southern Korea.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: The delegate of the United States of America.

f Dr. SCHEELE: (United States of America): The United States supports the recommendation of the Committee on Constitutional Matters to admit Korea to membership of the World Health Organization, particularly because such action is in accord with the declared policy of the World Health Organization of having as wide a membership as possible. Korea is functioning as an independent State with effective internal governmental institutions and is competent to conduct its own foreign affairs. Diplomatic recognition of Korea has been accorded by the United States, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, China, Brazil, Chile and by the Vatican. Furthermore, the resolution of 12 December 1948 passed by an overwhelming majority in the Assembly of the United Nations affirms this fact. That resolution expressed the opinion that Korea is a nation eligible for membership.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: I think we could now proceed to a vote on the acceptance of the whole report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters.

The delegate of Hungary.

Dr. SIMONOVITS (Hungary): The question is whether there is one Korea, or two Koreas. If we accept the resolution, which Korea will be a Member of WHO? I have just read an American periodical, from which I will quote the following: "Heavy fighting in Korea", "Heavy fighting between the forces of North and South Korea" (it seems there are two Koreas) "is in progress in the Ongjin region of Korea along the 30th parallel, the United Nations Korean Commission reported today. No other details were available."

So as we can see, there are two Koreas. In Korea there is fighting between the North and the South. There are other even clearer cases also - For instance, my country, Hungary has ratified peace treaties with all countries and Hungary cannot be a Member of the United Nations. So, if a country such as Hungary, many years after the ratifying peace treaties, cannot be a Member of the United Nations, I ask why we should vote about this question - a thing which seems to be full of politics.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: I should like to draw the attention of the Assembly to the fact that we are dealing with South Korea: not with Korea, but with South Korea only.

Dr. TOGBA (Liberia): It seems as if, when it comes to constitutional matters, many of us forget what our occupations are. We are here as physicians, not as politicians. In this question dealing with Korea, many of us evidently have taken the political point of view instead of the medical point of view. We debated this matter considerably in the committee and I thought the matter might be left there, but many Members are not satisfied and want to waste our time by talking on and on upon the subject. Korea should be admitted, on the basis that it is a nation desiring to come into our Organization, a nation which has many people in it - and probably many of them are sick and might have diseases which may spread to other parts of the world. Now why should we reject on

political grounds, a nation which has applied to us for membership? Why should we now try to establish a frontier for diseases? Diseases know no national boundaries and for that reason I move that we close the debate on this issue and take a vote if necessary. I am quite sure, as has been expressed by the delegate of Poland that all of us are willing to let Korea come in. But, of course, as the delegate of Poland says, she was talking against her will because of instructions by her government. It is our duty to try to get our governments to understand that we are doctors trying to take care of the sick and not politicians. Therefore let us close the debate on this issue and come to an agreement and accept Korea as a Member of the World Health Organization.

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: We will proceed to a vote on the acceptance of the Sixth Report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters.

x Dr. van den BERG (Netherlands): A point of order, Mr. Chairman. You have proposed that we vote on the report of the committee. Now there is an amendment proposed by the delegation of Bulgaria. This amendment was seconded and to my mind the proper procedure is to vote first on the amendment and then on the report of the committee.

x The DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I have no record of anyone proposing an amendment to this report. Several nations stated that they could not accept part of this report but there was no proposal to amend the report.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: The delegate of Bulgaria.

x Dr. STOYANOFF (Bulgaria) (Interpretation from the French): I must apologize first of all for coming back and speaking again, but when I took the floor the first time, I suggested that we should vote on these points separately, and said that, as far as paragraph 1.2 is concerned, we shall vote against it. I also stated that we shall abstain from voting on paragraph 5. Therefore I suggest that separate votes be taken on these two points and also on the rest of the report.

x The ACTING PRESIDENT: We will vote on the Bulgarian proposal, supported by other members of the Assembly; that is to delete paragraph 1.2 altogether. Those approving the proposal of the Bulgarian delegate kindly raise their cards. The Hungarian delegate wishes to speak.

Dr. BAKACS (Hungary): Mr. Chairman, I would like a roll-call to be taken.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: We will then proceed by roll-call. I give the floor to the delegate of the Philippines.

Dr. VILLARAMA (Philippines): Mr. President, I am raising a point of order. It seems to me that when there is voting you cannot allow anybody to talk on the subject. It must be stopped. All things must be stopped and that is the point of order I am raising. I really cannot understand the procedure being followed in this Assembly. There are motions that are being voted without any reference whatsoever, and for this reason I am raising that point. That is the real point in the question that we are facing. At the time of voting there should be no more chance for anybody to talk, and this is the reason for nominal voting. It seems to me that nominal voting must be supported by at least two-thirds of the members present. Otherwise, the voting should always go in the ordinary way. That is the procedure that I understand, though I am not in the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: The Director-General will comment on that please.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL: The Rules of Procedure for the Assembly deal with this matter in Rule 57: "The Health Assembly shall normally vote by show of hands or by standing, except that any delegate may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the Members." There is no choice, Mr. Chairman. As soon as any Member requests a roll-call it must be proceeded with in that way.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: The Director-General will proceed now to a nominal vote and you must say "Yes", "No", or "Abstain".

M. GEERAERTS (Belgium): I shall be very grateful if an explanation can be given on what we are voting on now. There has been so much talk going on that I really do not know what we are voting upon.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: I will ask the Director-General to explain.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL: We are voting on the proposal of the delegate of Bulgaria to delete paragraph 1.2 of document A2/99, the Sixth Report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters.

The names of the Member States were called in turn in English alphabetical order.

The result of the vote was as follows:

In favour: Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Iceland, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America, Venezuela.

Abstained: Afghanistan, Argentine, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Israel, Salvador, Sweden, Switzerland.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: Here is the result of the vote:

Number of Members present and voting	39
Number of votes required for simple majority	20
Number of Members voting "Yes"	6
Number of Members voting "No"	33
Abstentions	9
Absent	6

The motion is therefore lost.

Does the Bulgarian delegate still insist upon asking for a separate vote for paragraph 5 ?

Dr. STOYANOFF (Bulgaria): No, Mr. Chairman, I do not insist any more.

The Acting PRESIDENT: Then we will vote on the whole of item 17. Any objections to its adoption now ? The report is adopted.

✓ 7. ADOPTION OF REPORTS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

Second Report of the General Committee (A2/94 Rev.1). ✓

The ACTING PRESENT: Any objections? The report is accepted.

Third Report of the General Committee (A2/106) ✓

✓ The ACTING PRESENT: I should like to draw attention to the fact that there are two additions to A2/106. To the third, fourth and fifth reports of the Committee on Administration and Finance, add "the

sixth", and then, after the last paragraph, add: "The General Committee recommends to the Assembly that the Third World Health Assembly should be held in Geneva, commencing on 8 May 1950."

Any objections to the adoption of this report ? No objections, the proposal is accepted.

✓ 8. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD  
(Official Records 16, 14 and 17)

The ACTING PRESIDENT: The General Committee suggests the adoption of the following resolution:

"The Second World Health Assembly has received and approved the reports on the activities of the Executive Board and of the Director-General and has taken action thereon."

Any objections, please ? The reports are adopted.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

x Dr. SANTOS (Brazil) : Before coming to the end of our work the delegation of Brazil wishes to express its satisfaction at the interest shown by the Member States of the World Health Organization in giving to the Organization the necessary elements to fulfil the working plan to ensure "one of the fundamental rights of every human being". My country will follow with the greatest attention the development of this programme, and the Brazilian delegation states herewith that the Brazilian Government will not fail in the near future, as it has never done in the past, to lend all moral, technical and financial help which may enable the World Health Organization to attain its very meritorious aims.

If the Brazilian delegation has not been able during this Assembly to engage itself to contribute the higher sums which were outside the framework of its present contribution, it is due to the fact that the Brazilian Government is now enacting a Five-Year Administrative Plan for transport, fuel, food and health. In the matter of health it should be underlined and stressed that this plan coincides in many points with the programme which the World Health Organization is now putting into effect. The putting into effect of this Brazilian plan for health entails considerable expenditure, but we think that very soon malaria and all endemic diseases will not constitute any more serious problems for our government. In the matter of vaccination with BCG, our country, which has been using it for the last 22 years, will from next year onward use it in an almost compulsory sense. It is true that ill health in a nation has repercussions on neighbouring nations. We believe, however, that the welfare sought by the Brazilian government for its people will also have favourable repercussions on the other peoples of the world.

The DIRECTOR-GENERAL: There will be a plenary session of the Assembly at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning.

The ACTING PRESIDENT: If you will allow me, gentlemen, I should like to congratulate the Assembly on completing its business today, and to thank you all.

The meeting is adjourned.

The meeting rose at 2.0 p.m.