

**ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL**

E/H/PC/W/4
24. March 1946

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

GOVERNING BODY

1. Composition

The Governing Body shall be composed of delegates from Member States of the Organization. Each Member shall be represented by one delegate. This delegate shall be chosen from among the most qualified persons to represent the Health Organization of the country. Each Member State will appoint an alternate and advisers, who will not have the right to vote except in the case of an alternate participating in the place of a member.

2. The Council shall be composed of nine to fifteen persons elected for three-year periods by the Governing Body from among the Delegations of Member States which are represented at the regular session of the Governing Body.

No two members of the Council shall be nationals of the same State.

The Members of the Council shall exercise the powers delegated to them by the Governing Body on behalf of the whole Governing Body and not as representatives of their respective governments.

At the first election nine to fifteen members will be elected, of whom one-third shall retire at the end of the first year and one-third at the end of the second year, the order of retirement being determined immediately after the election by the drawing of lots. Thereafter members will be elected each year.

Chairmen on his own initiative or at the request of the members of the Board

The Health Conference will have regard in appointing the Health Committee to the desirability that its membership should reflect as varied as possible an experience in the different fields of public health, science and practice.

3. Functions

The Council shall be responsible for giving effect to the policies of the Organization and should perform such other functions as may be delegated to it by the Governing Body. The Council shall act as the technical organ of the World Health Organization. It shall study all questions within its competence and in particular:

- (a) it shall advise the General Conference of the World Health Organization on the questions referred to it by the latter, and on those falling within its competence as a result of international conventions;
- (b) whenever it thinks fit and after previous study, it may submit advice or proposals to the Conference on its own initiative;
- (c) it shall prepare the agenda of meetings of the World Health Organization and shall submit to it a general programme of work covering a specific period which it shall carry out after approval by the General Conference of the International Health Organization;
- (d) the Executive Board shall be authorized, within the limits of the funds at its disposal, to take any emergency measures necessitated by events requiring immediate action within the scope of the general functions of the Organization. In particular it may authorize the Director to take the necessary steps to combat epidemics, participate in the organization of health relief to victims of a calamity, and undertake studies and research the urgency of which has been drawn to it attention by any State.

4. Subject to the decisions of the General Conference of the International Health Organization, the Executive Board of the International Health Organization shall adopt its own rules of procedure. It shall elect its officers from amongst its members.

5. The Executive Board shall meet in regular session at least twice each year at designated places and may meet in special session if convoked by the Chairman on his own initiative or at the request of the members of the Board.