

**ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL****CONSEIL  
ECONOMIQUE  
ET SOCIAL**E/H/PC/V/7  
26 March 1946

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE  
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CONFERENCEPROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO SURGEON GENERAL PARRAN'S  
TEXT ON "THE GOVERNING BODY AND EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL" (Soc. E/H/PC/6, Pages 4-7)

## V. World Health Conference

A. Composition

The World Health Conference shall be composed of delegates from all Member States. Each Member should be represented by not more than three delegates, one of whom should be designated as Chief Delegate for whom an alternate may be appointed. Delegates may also be accompanied by advisers. In selecting their delegates due regard should be paid by the Member States to the technical nature of the work of the World Health Conference. Each Member should have one vote in the World Health Conference.

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The World Health Conference 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 persons most qualified by their technical competence. Each Member State shall appoint under similar conditions 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.

B. Meetings

The World Health Conference shall meet in regular session at least once a year, the place of each meeting to be determined at the previous session. Provision for the calling of extraordinary meetings of the World Health Conference should be made.

C. Functions

The World Health Conference shall:-

- (i) determine the broad policies of the Organization;
- (ii) elect the members of the Executive Board and appoint the Director-General;
- (iii) review and approve reports and activities of the Board and of the Director-General; instruct the Board in regard to matters upon which action, study, investigation and report may be considered desirable; and vote the budget of the Organization.
- (iv) have the authority to adopt regulations prescribing:-
  - (1) standard quarantine requirements and other procedures designed to prevent the international spread of disease;
  - (2) nomenclature with respect to diseases, causes of mortality, diagnostic procedures and public health terms used in official reports of Member States;
  - (3) standards with respect to the safety, purity and potency of drugs moving in international commerce under names in general use;
  - (4) standards with respect to labelling the content of other drugs moving in international commerce;
  - (5) standards with respect to the safety, purity and potency of biologic products moving in international commerce.

Such regulations should become effective as to all Member States of the Organization after due notice has been given of their adoption by the World Health Conference, except for such Members as may notify the Director-General of rejection or reservations within the period stated in the notice;

- (v) have the authority to recommend amendments of existing conventions with respect to any appropriate matter within the scope of the Organization. Such conventions shall become operative as to each Member State when accepted by it in accordance with its constitutional procedures;

- (vi) instruct the Director General to bring to the attention of Member States of the Organization and of the Economic and Social Council or the General Assembly of the United Nations any matter with respect to health which the World Health Conference should consider appropriate;
- (vii) the World Health Conference may invite any public or private international organization which has responsibilities related to those of the World Health Organization to appoint a representative who shall participate in one or more of its meetings on the conditions prescribed by the World Health Conference. No such representative shall have the right to vote;
- (viii) the World Health Conference shall consider recommendations bearing on health from the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Security and Trusteeship Councils, and report to them on the steps taken to give effect to these recommendations. The World Health Conference shall moreover report regularly on its activities to the Economic and Social Council.
- (ix) take all necessary and appropriate action to further the purposes of the Organization.

## VI. Executive Board

### A. Composition

The Board shall be composed of the representatives of from nine to fifteen States of the Organization, each State selecting a representative from among its delegates. The States to be represented for this purpose shall be elected by the World Health Conference for terms of three years, and be eligible for re-election. The Members of the Board shall exercise powers delegated to them by the World Health Conference on behalf of the whole World Health Conference and not as representatives of their respective governments. The Executive Board shall elect its own Chairman and he shall convene the meetings. The Board shall meet at least twice a year and it shall determine the place where the meeting is to be held.

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

B. Functions

The Executive Board shall be responsible for giving effect to the policies of the Organization and shall perform such other functions as may be delegated to it by the World Health Conference. The Executive Board 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 World Health 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 the meetings of the World Health Conference and shall submit to it a general programme of work covering a specific period which it shall carry out after approval by the World Health Conference of the World 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 and budget of the Organization. In particular it may authorize the Director General to take the necessary steps to combat epidemics, participate in the organization of health relief to victims of a calamity, and undertake study and research the urgency of which has been drawn to its attention by any States or by the Director General.

Director General

1. The Director General shall be nominated by the Executive Board and appointed by the World Health Conference for a minimum period of five years under such conditions as the Conference may approve, and shall be eligible for re-appointment; he shall be subject to removal by the Executive Board for valid cause in accordance with the general conditions laid down in the appointment of officials of the United Nations.
2. The Director General shall be ex officio secretary of all commissions and sub-commissions of the World Health Organization and conferences convened by it. He shall be empowered to delegate these secretaryships to competent officials or experts. The Director General shall be the chief administrative officer of the Organization.
3. The Director General shall prepare and submit to the Council the annual budget of the Organization.
4. The Director General shall appoint the staff of the Secretariat in accordance with the staff regulations to be approved by the Conference.

In appointing the staff of the Secretariat the Director General shall give primary consideration to securing high standards of efficiency and of technical competence.

5. In the performance of their duties, the Director General and staff shall be responsible only to the Organization. Their responsibilities shall be exclusively international in character, and they shall not seek or receive instructions in regard to the discharge thereof from any authority external to the Organization.
  6. The qualifications, salary, tenure, retirement, and conditions of service of the Director General, assistants and members of the staff of the secretariat shall be fixed so far as is practicable in conformity with those for members of the staff of the secretariat of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies which may be brought into relationship with the United Nations as provided for in Article 57 of the Charter of the United Nations.
  7. The Director General shall in the discharge of his duties have direct access to national health administrations.
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