

**ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL**

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

Summary Record of the Twelfth Meeting held on Wednesday, 27 March 1946
at 10.30.a.m. at the Palais d'Orsay, Paris.

Chairman: Dr. René SAND

1. Timetable for Committee

The necessity for fixing an appropriate date for the end of the work of the Committee was stressed, some Members believing that the work could be finished by Tuesday, 2 April 1946, others believing that more time would be required. It was suggested that in order not to hasten work which should be done with care, general questions of special importance to Members who were obliged to leave early should be discussed at once, and the drafting left until later. The CHAIRMAN ruled that this question should be reconsidered later, as it depended somewhat on the progress made at the meetings which were to be held during the day.

2. Budget

In the consideration of Section XII (E/H/PC/W/9), Budget and Expenses, paragraph (a) was adopted, with the insertion of the word "estimates" after "budget" in the first sentence, and the addition of the words "and action" after "consideration" in the last.

After a lengthy exchange of views on paragraph (b), it was decided that the Organization should retain a degree of autonomy with regard to fixing the budget, and that the original wording in Dr. Parran's text (XII,b,E/H/PC/6) should be retained.

Paragraph (c) was approved as read, as was paragraph (d), with the suggestion, however, that the latter should be divided into two separate paragraphs.

3. Legal Status

Concerning the privileges and immunities required by the new Organization some Members believed that it would be sufficient to insert a note in the report to the effect that the Organization should have the same privileges as those enjoyed by the United Nations. It was pointed out, however, that especially with regard to epidemiological work, there were some privileges (such as telephone, telegram, and postal priorities) perhaps not possessed by the United Nations, which would be essential to the functioning of the World Health Organization. Moreover, some of the specialized agencies had additional privileges. The solution suggested by Dr. SZE and accepted by the Committee was to establish the principle of aiming for "privileges and immunities no less than those enjoyed by the United Nations or other specialized agencies."

4. Committees

The Committee then turned to the consideration of document E/H/PC/W/8. Paragraph (a) was adopted without comment; paragraph (b), dealing with the question of an annual review by the Council of the question of the continuance of committees, was accepted, with the addition, after "committee" of the phrase - "except those that are appointed specifically for a period of more than one year."

Paragraph (c) was likewise adopted, but in connection with this paragraph the question of having an Advisory Committee set up within the Organization was again raised by Dr. PAULO-SOUZA.

Dr. MACKENZIE, while emphasizing the importance which he attached to providing for adequate representation of outside health organizations, thought that this could not well be accomplished by setting up an Advisory Committee. Such a Committee might have no authority, and members of outside organizations could more effectively express their views as members of Technical Committees or as Advisers to Delegates. The first requisite of the Committee was, after all, to establish a smoothly running machine. Technical Committees would be best qualified to deal with any special problems, and he could not see the need for an Advisory Council. He asked

Dr. Paulo-Souza to explain in more detail the type of Council which he contemplated.

Dr. PAULO-SOUZA explained that the Organization which he had in mind would not be entirely without authority. Its authority would arise from the quality and nature of the work which it presented. He saw it as a sort of research bureau, composed of members of unquestioned authority in different fields of health, appointed, perhaps by a Committee set up by the Conference. This Committee would not be asked to produce immediate results, but should work at their leisure on problems not yet precise enough to be dealt with by Technical Committees but which eventually might have great practical value. This Organization could work in liaison with the National Research Councils, could draw up lists of outstanding personalities in the field of Health, and prepare monographs. It could be the nucleus of establishing a sort of International Academy of Health and as such might be extremely valuable.

Drs. CAVAILLON and EWANG agreed with Dr. PAULO-SOUZA as to the desirability of having some such Committee.

Dr. CHISHOLM believed that the Committee was not yet in a position to take a definite stand on this point. The Conference and Executive Board should be given a year or two to become established; by that time they might be in a better position to contemplate the setting up of an advisory group. He, therefore, suggested that the problem should be left until the second meeting of the Conference and brought forward at that time.

This proposal was seconded by Dr. SZE and adopted, together with the suggestion of Drs. DOULL and CAVAILLON that in the final report mention should be made of the interest shown in the proposal for the establishment of an Advisory Council, and the arguments for and against it.

5. Conferences

It was pointed out that the first two paragraphs under Conferences, in document E/H/PC/W/8 had already been approved in principle and were to be inserted in the Rules of Procedure. With regard to the third paragraph, Dr. STAMBAR believed that if the Executive Board were authorized to convoke

international conferences, it would have too much power. After much discussion, the paragraph was changed to read, "The World Health Conference, or, in cases of emergency, the Executive Board, shall have the power...." etc.

6. Reports Submitted by States

In this paragraph, the word "transmit" was substituted for "submit"; "hygiene" was changed to read "related subjects"; and in the second line, the phrase "in the manner to be determined by the General Conference" was deleted. Emphasis was laid on the absolute necessity for States to send in annual reports to the Organization, as well as to transmit information on epidemics as soon as received. The Drafting Committee was charged with re-wording the paragraph to include these ideas.

7. Agenda for Next Meeting

It was decided to postpone the discussion of "Regional Offices" until the arrival of Dr. Hugh Cumming, and Dr. MANI announced that he and Dr. SZE were preparing a draft on the subject. The next item for consideration would, therefore, be "relationships with international and other organizations

The Meeting rose at 12.40.p.m.
