United Nations

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Nations Unies

ASSEMBLEE GENERALE

UNRESTRICTED

A/216

9 December 1946

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

REPORT OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

Rapporteur: Mrs. Aase LIONAES (Norway)

1. At the San Francisco Conference in 1945 the Delegations of China and of Brazil jointly recommended that a Conference be called for the purpose of establishing an International Health Organization.

On 15 February 1946, at its first session held in London, the Economic and Social Council decided to convene this Conference.

A Technical Preparatory Committee of sixteen experts appointed by the Council met in Paris from 18 March to 5 April 1946, and drew up general proposals for the Constitution of the World Health Organization.

The International Health Conference met in New York from 19 June to 23 July 1946. This Conference drew up the following instruments:

- (a) Final Act of the International Health Conference;
 - (b) Constitution of the World Health Organization;
 - (c) Arrangement concluded by the Governments represented at the International Health Conference establishing an Interim Commission for the World Health Organization;
 - (d) Protocol concerning the Office international d'hygiène publique.

At the conclusion of the Conference, sixty-one States signed the above final instruments: two only without reservations; the United Kingdom and China. Canada has subsequently deposited its instrument of acceptance relating to the Constitution and Protocol,

and Iran has notified its acceptance of the Constitution and Agreement.

- 2. On 17 September 1946, in the course of its third session, the Economic and Social Council adopted a resolution recommending that the General Assembly take the necessary measures for the establishment of the World Health Organization.
- 3. This matter was placed on the agenda of the General Assembly and was referred to the Third Committee, which unanimously approved the resolution of the Economic and Social Council and expressed the desire that Governments be urged to ratify their signatures at the earliest possible date.
- 4. With regard to the question of the budget of the Interim Commission of the World Health Organization, the Committee had to decide whether, in its opinion, the funds allotted by the United Nations for the purpose of financing the activities of the Interim Commission, should be in the form of a loan or of a grant. After discussion, it was thought that the funds should be advanced in the form of a loan, and the matter was referred to the Fifth Committee for further detailed consideration and report.

The Third Committee, therefore, recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution subject to any recommendation which may be submitted by the Fifth Committee:

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKES NOTE of the resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its third session on 17 September 1946, regarding the establishment of the World Health Organization:

THEREFORE

1. RECOMMENDS all Members of the United Nations to accept the Constitution of the World Health Organization at the

earliest possible date;

- 2. INSTRUCTS the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps, as contemplated by the Final Act of the International Health Conference, to effect the transfer to the Interim Commission of the World Health Organization of the functions and activities of the League of Nations Health Organization which have been assumed by the United Nations;
- 3. RECOMMENDS all Members of the United Nations, and in particular those Members parties to the Rome Agreement of 1907 constituting the Office international d'hygiène publique, to accept at the earliest possible date the Protocol of the International Health Conference concerning the Office international d'hygiène publique;
- 4. APPROVES, in response to the application of the Interim Commission, a loan by the United Nations of a maximum sum of \$300,000 (U.S.) for the purpose of financing the activities of the Interim Commission from the commencement of its work to the end of the financial year 1946, and approves the inclusion in the budget of the United Nations for the financial year 1947 of a maximum sum of \$1,000,000 (U.S.) as a further loan for the purpose of financing the activities of the Interim Commission or the World Health Organization during that year;
- 5. AUTHORIZES the Secretary-General to transmit any recommendations made by the General Assembly in pursuance of paragraphs 1 and 3 above to all States which, whether Members of the United Nations or not, sent representatives or observers to the International Health Conference.