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THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION AND  
MALARIA ERADICATION

The present document reproduces the resolutions on malaria eradication of the Ninth World Health Assembly and of the Executive Board at its eighteenth and nineteenth sessions.<sup>1</sup> In Annex I appear the relevant resolutions and discussions of the Regional Committees in 1956.

MALARIA ERADICATION - RESOLUTION WHA9.61 (25 May 1956)

The Ninth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the implementation of resolution WHA8.30 on malaria eradication;

Noting that considerable progress has been made in some countries towards eradicating the disease;

Having noted with satisfaction the high priority which has been given by UNICEF to malaria eradication programmes and the increased allocations for malaria eradication which are expected to be made in 1956 and subsequent years;

Considering that anticipated requirements in funds, including such special types of needs as cannot be met from local or national or other sources, will call for increased resources in the Malaria Eradication Special Account;

Having noted the action taken by the Executive Board at its seventeenth session and by the Committee on Malaria Eradication established by the Board with respect to the acceptance of voluntary contributions and the authorization of the use of those contributions towards malaria eradication;

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<sup>1</sup> For the resolutions adopted in 1955 see document WHO/Mal/162.

1. REQUESTS the Director-General again to draw to the attention of governments the need to intensify their malaria control programmes so that malaria eradication may be achieved as early as possible, by stages under certain circumstances, with a view to ultimate economy in expenditure and to obviate the potential danger of development of resistance to insecticides in anopheline vector species;
2. REQUESTS the Director-General again to invite contributions from governments, non-governmental organizations and private sources to the Malaria Eradication Special Account;
3. RECOMMENDS that UNICEF continue its full support to the continuance and expansion of the existing control programmes as a step towards transformation to eradication campaigns;
4. EXPRESSES its satisfaction at the action of the Board in establishing its Committee on Malaria Eradication which will enable the Organization to take such steps as may be required.

FIXING OF TARGET DATES FOR STARTING INTER-REGIONAL  
CO-ORDINATED PROGRAMMES FOR MALARIA  
CONTROL LEADING TO ERADICATION  
RESOLUTION WHA9.62 (25 May 1956)

The Ninth World Health Assembly,

Being convinced that it is highly desirable to obtain malaria control simultaneously, in as large areas as possible, for increasing the efficiency of the campaigns and effecting economy, eventually leading to eradication of malaria in border areas between countries and regions;

RECOMMENDS that the World Health Organization offer, subject to availability of funds, appropriate assistance in the forms that may be required by governments.

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE BOARD ON MALARIA ERADICATION

The Executive Board,

Having considered resolution EB17.R60,

Having considered the second report of the Committee on Malaria Eradication,<sup>1</sup> and particularly the recommendations to amend the terms of reference of the Committee as defined in resolution EB17.R60,

1. DECIDES that the revised terms of reference of the Committee shall be as follows:

- (1) Any contributions accompanied by special conditions shall be referred for decision to the Board in plenary meeting;
- (2) The Committee is authorized:
  - (a) to accept, in accordance with the existing criteria established for the purpose by the Executive Board, voluntary contributions to the Malaria Eradication Special Account in currency or in kind, whether in the form of services or supplies and equipment, from governmental sources, providing the Director-General has determined that such contributions can be utilized in the programme;
  - (b) to accept voluntary contributions to the Malaria Eradication Special Account in currency or in kind, whether in the form of services or supplies and equipment, from private sources, subject to such contributions having no conditions attached to them for their acceptance and providing the Director-General has determined that such contributions can be utilized in the programme.
- (3) To advise the Director-General on action to be taken to obtain increased voluntary contributions from various sources to the Special Account;

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<sup>1</sup> Document EB18/15

- (4) To refer for decision by the Board any matters which the Committee considers should be so referred because of their important or controversial nature;
- (5) To make proposals to the Board for revisions of its terms of reference in the light of experience;
- (6) To report to each subsequent session of the Board any actions taken by the Committee under its terms of reference.

2. AUTHORIZES the Director-General to use credits received in the Special Account through contributions accepted under paragraph 1 (2) above for existing or new malaria eradication programmes or projects, wherever required, in accordance with the policies established by the Assembly and the Board for the Malaria Eradication Programme.

EB18.R16

#### MALARIA ERADICATION SPECIAL ACCOUNT

The Executive Board,

Having considered the Third Report of the Committee on Malaria Eradication,<sup>1</sup> and particularly the recommendation to amend paragraph 2 of resolution EB18.R16;

AUTHORIZES the Director-General to use credits received in the Special Account through contributions accepted under paragraph 1 (2) of resolution EB18.R16 for the purposes provided for in paragraph III.2.(3) of resolution WHA8.30, wherever required, in accordance with the policies established by the Assembly and the Board for the malaria eradication programme.

EB19.R39

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<sup>1</sup> Document EB19/67

RESOLUTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS OF THE  
REGIONAL COMMITTEES 1956

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

Malaria Eradication Resolution AFR/RC6/R.11

The Regional Committee for Africa

TAKES NOTE of resolution WHA9.61 of the Ninth World Health Assembly and

RECOMMENDS that the subject be further studied on the occasion of the next African Conference on Malaria.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE AMERICAS

Malaria Eradication Programme in the Americas EB19/28 Annex 2

The programme for the eradication of malaria in the Americas was the object of a detailed discussion, during which oral progress reports were presented by 23 countries; 19 countries supplemented this information by written statistical reports based on the standard tables prepared and distributed in advance.

In presenting a summary on the situation, the Director indicated that in less than two years since the decision taken by the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference (1954), the majority of the health authorities in the Americas have already converted or are in the process of converting their control programmes to malaria eradication campaigns.

The Regional Director of UNICEF for the Americas made a statement on UNICEF's participation in the campaign to eradicate malaria, reporting on the allocations approved by the UNICEF Executive Board and on those contemplated in the overall budget for malaria eradication throughout the world.

In the course of the meeting, the representative of the United States announced the decision of his Government to make a special contribution of \$ 1 500 000 to the PASO in 1957, to increase the special fund of the PASO for

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antimalaria activities in the Americas. The Council expressed its special appreciation for this contribution, emphasizing the valuable support it would provide for the malaria eradication programme in the hemisphere.

Among the important points that were brought out during the discussion were the following:

(a) The Council expressed the agreement of all countries that malaria should be given first priority among public health problems, and reaffirmed its faith in the possibility of eradicating the disease in the western hemisphere.

(b) Stress was laid on the great efforts and financial investments being made by the American countries to advance the eradication campaign, which was proclaimed to be urgent in view of the danger of losing the effective weapon of residual insecticides through development of resistance by malaria vectors.

(c) All the countries recognized that international collaboration is essential to the success of the eradication campaign in the Americas. Emphasis was laid on the role incumbent upon the PASB/WHO in giving technical assistance to governments for the organization of their national eradication campaigns and in co-ordinating their efforts on a continent-wide scale. Special significance was attached to the financial participation of UNICEF and of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance in the carrying out of those activities.

(d) The need was stressed for the national malaria services to be given the necessary rank and authority within the public health ministries in order to expedite the handling of funds and of personnel problems, as one of the means of assuring the success of the eradication programme.

(e) It was pointed out that the success or failure of the continent-wide campaign would depend in large measure on its success or failure in each of the affected countries, and in view of the urgency of the eradication programmes, the need was stressed for the governments to exert every possible effort to achieve the conversion from control to eradication and to provide the necessary resources to ensure the uninterrupted continuation of the eradication programmes until their completion.

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(f) The Council recommended to those governments which have carried their eradication programmes to an advanced stage or have completed them, that in their reports on the status of the programme they follow the criteria established by the WHO and the PASB, enlisting for that purpose the collaboration of experts of those organizations.

Malaria Eradication Programme in the Americas EBl9/28 Annex I, Resolution XXI

The Directing Council,

Considering Resolution XVIII of the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference, which instructed the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to promote the intensification and co-ordination of antimalaria work with a view to achieving the eradication of malaria in the western hemisphere;

Considering Resolution XLII of the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference, which provided that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau should carry out the terms of the above-mentioned resolution and study international measures to ensure the protection of those countries or territories that have achieved eradication of malaria, and which authorized the Director to secure the financial participation of public or private organizations, national or international, in order to further the aims set forth in that resolution; and

Considering the results obtained in the countries of the Americas in the fight against malaria, particularly the progress made since the XIV Pan American Sanitary Conference,

RESOLVES

- (1) to state the consensus of all countries of the hemisphere that malaria should be given first priority among public health problems;
- (2) to reaffirm its faith in the possibility of eradicating malaria in the western hemisphere;
- (3) to acknowledge the great efforts that the countries of the Americas have made and are making to bring to completion their antimalaria programmes;

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- (4) to acknowledge and express its great appreciation for the collaboration provided by the Government of the United States of America in assigning the amount of \$ 1 500 000 to increase the special fund of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau for antimalaria activities in the hemisphere;
- (5) to recognize the importance of international collaboration for the success of the malaria eradication programme in the Americas, and to affirm that the financial participation of UNICEF and of the United Nations Technical Assistance has been of special significance in the plan of activities that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the various Member Governments are jointly carrying out in this field;
- (6) to recommend to the Member Governments that, owing to the urgency of the malaria eradication programmes, they assign to the national malaria services the necessary status and authority to expedite the handling of funds and of personnel problems, as one of the means of assuring the success of the eradication programme;
- (7) to encourage the Member Governments to exert every possible effort, to the extent they find it necessary, to convert their malaria control programmes into eradication programmes and to assure the provision of the necessary resources so that the eradication programmes under way will continue uninterrupted until their completion;
- (8) to recommend to those Member Governments that have carried eradication activities to an advanced stage or that consider eradication to have been achieved, that, in their reports on the status of the programme, they follow the criteria established by the World Health Organization and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, enlisting for that purpose the collaboration of experts of those organizations.

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REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (SUB-COMMITTEE A)

Extract from Document EM/RC6/16 Rev.1

In the discussion representatives reported on the progress of campaigns in their own countries and referred especially to administrative and financial difficulties and the problem of migrants and nomads. The representative of UNICEF also stressed the importance of sound and thorough administrative organization and a timely and adequate budget.

The question of the use of chemoprophylaxis was briefly discussed and it was pointed out that this method of control would probably be required to supplement residual spraying methods in African territories and might be useful in dealing with migrants.

The representative of Pakistan briefly outlined the history of the eradication concept and resultant action and drew attention to the fact that it was eradication of malaria that was planned and not eradication of the vector. He believed resistance was not developing as fast as had been at one time feared, it had not yet been reported in Pakistan, and also stressed the importance of careful consideration of financial and administrative matters and the problem of nomadism. He also questioned the wisdom of undue interference with rice cultivation in rice-eating areas (it was explained that references to rice cultivation in document EM/RC6/12 Add.2 applied particularly to the majority of countries in the European and Eastern Mediterranean regions where rice is grown as an extra cash crop and not as a staple crop). Finally, whilst agreeing that any public health administrator who could eradicate malaria would relieve himself of a major problem, he also pointed out that there were other important public health problems and that eradication of malaria needed to be seen in proper focus.

The Sub-Committee called upon governments of Member States to intensify their malaria control programmes in accordance with the requirements of eradication procedures, recommended that WHO, UNICEF and other international agencies co-ordinate their activities and give full support to malaria control programmes having

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eradication as an ultimate objective and further recommended that Member States implementing malaria eradication programmes draw up long-term plans, provide adequate funds and ensure that national malaria eradication organizations are equipped with adequate administrative and financial powers to ensure operational efficiency.

Malaria Eradication (Resolution EM/RC6A/R.8) 21 September 1956

The Sub-Committee,

Having studied the document submitted by the Regional Director on Malaria Eradication<sup>1</sup> including the resolution passed by the Ninth World Health Assembly and the conclusions of the Athens Inter-Regional Malaria Conference and the Advisory Meeting on Malaria Eradication;

Realizing that malaria is still a major health problem in the region in spite of the intensification and expansion of existing malaria control programmes in various countries;

Being convinced that malaria eradication programmes are to be looked upon as capital investment effecting ultimate economy in expenditure;

Recognizing that the potential danger of the development of resistance to modern insecticides by the anopheline vector species might ultimately jeopardize the successful issue of malaria eradication programmes if these are unduly prolonged or ineffectively implemented;

Noting with satisfaction the interest and the active steps taken by many countries in the region for implementing malaria eradication programmes and emphasizing the leadership of WHO in co-ordinating these activities between neighbouring countries;

Recognizing further that delays in implementing such programmes are sometimes attributable to lack of co-ordination between the interested international agencies and to the existence of financial and administrative difficulties within government administrations,

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<sup>1</sup> Unpublished document EM/RC6/12

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1. CALLS upon the Governments of Member States within the region in which such programmes are feasible, to intensify their malaria control programmes in such a way to meet the requisites of malaria eradication procedures so that eradication may be achieved as early as possible with ultimate economy in expenditure;
2. RECOMMENDS that UNICEF, WHO and other international agencies co-ordinate their activities and give full support to the development of antimalaria programmes having as their objective the ultimate eradication of the disease;
3. RECOMMENDS FURTHER that Member States implementing malaria eradication programmes draw up long-term plans and provide adequate funds as well as appropriate legislative regulations for the reorientation of the existing administrative and financial patterns of the malaria eradication organizations to provide these with full administrative and financial powers to ensure maximum operational efficiency necessary for reaching the goal of eradication.

Malaria Eradication EM/RC6/12 Add.2 (Advisory Meeting on Malaria Eradication in Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Syria)

The Advisory Meeting on Malaria Eradication,

1. EXPRESSES its belief in the benefit of holding meetings at inter-country and inter-regional levels;
2. THANKS WHO for the leadership in co-ordinating the activities of neighbouring countries in the field of malaria eradication;
3. REQUESTS WHO to explore the possibilities of co-ordinating the assistance of international agencies;
4. ENDORSES the conclusions of the Inter-Regional Conference on Malaria for the Eastern Mediterranean and European Regions, and
5. WISHES to emphasize that surveillance programmes should be considered as an integral part of malaria eradication operations.

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REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE

The Regional Committee on Malaria Eradication noted the resolutions WHA9.61 and WHA9.62 on malaria eradication.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Malaria Eradication SEA/RC9/21 Rev.1

The Committee discussed document SEA/RC9/6, submitted by the Regional Director, describing the present position regarding malaria epidemiology and control in each country of the Region, together with tentative suggestions for an intensification of the existing control measures, with a view to reaching the goal of eradication, by stages where necessary, but within a specified period of time. It adopted resolution SEA/RC9/R.7 on the subject. During the discussion, the following points were stressed:

(1) The tentative proposals contained in the document were accepted in principle, but were to be further developed by negotiation with each country.

(2) The assistance given by international agencies and bilateral agencies was a matter of great encouragement: the Committee particularly appreciated the statement made by the ICA representative that the Government of the United States of America subscribed to the concept of world-wide malaria eradication, that the ICA would continue to give support to malaria control and eradication projects, and that ways and means of mobilizing additional resources for the intensification and expansion of such programmes were being sought.

(3) The need for securing much larger subscriptions to the Malaria Eradication Special Account, opened by WHO in order to render increasing assistance to national eradication programmes, was stressed.

(4) The need for the continuation and intensification of co-operation between international and bilateral agencies with respect to national malaria programmes was emphasized.

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(5) Emphasis was also laid on the need for governments to satisfy themselves that, before embarking upon interruption of spraying programmes, certain essential criteria laid down by the World Health Organization had been fulfilled.

Malaria Eradication (Resolution SEA/RC9/R.7)

The Regional Committee,

Having considered document SEA/RC9/6, reporting the progress made in the implementation of resolution SEA/RC8/R.15, on malaria eradication, and containing WHO tentative proposals for each country of the Region for the progressive achievement of the goal of eradication, in pursuance of resolution WHA9.61, passed by the Ninth World Health Assembly,

Noting that while substantial progress has been made in most countries, a great deal yet remains to be done,

Having noted with satisfaction the substantial assistance given by ICA for national malaria control programmes in many countries and the increased allocations made by UNICEF for intensified malaria control or eradication,

1. APPROVES in principle the tentative proposals made in document SEA/RC9/6;
2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to pursue these proposals in his negotiations with individual governments;
3. APPRECIATES the statement made by the ICA representative that the Government of the United States of America subscribes to the concept of world-wide malaria eradication, that the ICA will continue to give support to malaria control and eradication projects, and that ways and means of mobilizing additional resources for the intensification and expansion of such programmes are being sought;
4. REQUESTS the Regional Director to take up with the Director-General the urgent need for making adequate finances available from the Malaria Eradication Special Account to enable him to render appropriate assistance to national eradication programmes by negotiation with individual governments;

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5. EMPHASIZES the need for the continuation and intensification of co-operation between governments, WHO and other international or bilateral agencies in the national malaria control or eradication programmes and, finally,
6. INVITES the special attention of governments to the need to satisfy themselves that the criteria proposed by the World Health Organization through its Expert Committee on Malaria for withdrawal of spraying are satisfied before embarking upon interruption of spraying programmes.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC

Malaria Eradication (Resolution WP/RC7.R.10)

The Regional Committee,

Having noted with approval the action already taken by the Ninth World Health Assembly and by the Regional Director of the Western Pacific towards the eradication of malaria,

RESOLVES

1. that the Director-General be asked to give priority to antimalaria projects and to provide funds for them when necessary from the Malaria Eradication Special Account, and
2. that the attention of all those concerned be called to the absolute necessity of co-ordinating antimalaria programmes of adjoining countries belonging to different regions as well as the programmes of countries within one region.

Inter-Regional Malaria Training Course (Resolution WP/RC7.R.11)

The Regional Committee,

Having been informed of the plan to establish an inter-regional malaria training course based in Indonesia, to be financed from Technical Assistance funds in 1958,

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Considering the importance of the intensification of antimalaria campaigns to the economic development of those under-developed countries in which malaria is a problem,

1. EXPRESSES the desire of the countries in the Region which have a malaria problem to participate in the course;
2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to ask the Director-General to convey to the Technical Assistance Board and the Technical Assistance Committee the request of the governments in the Western Pacific Region that this training course be approved as a project in the 1958 Technical Assistance programme and that funds to finance the course be provided from the Technical Assistance Special Account.