



MEETING OF DIRECTORS OR REPRESENTATIVES
OF SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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BASIC INFORMATION ON
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

by

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Founding of the Association

The Association of Institutions Responsible for Advanced Teaching of Public Health and of Schools of Public Health in Europe was founded at the Symposium of Schools of Public Health held in Ankara, under the auspices of WHO, from 17 to 21 October 1966. The Symposium had been preceded by a few less formal meetings at which the matter had been discussed and agreement had been reached concerning the establishment of such an Association.

First General Assembly convened by Preparatory Committee

The Statutes of the Association were unanimously adopted on 20 October 1966, and a Preparatory Committee was elected with the task of carrying out the decisions of the Symposium and of convening the first General Assembly. The Assembly met in Zagreb, at the Andrija Stampar School of Public Health, from 7 - 11 October 1968. Organizationally, it consisted of two parts: the administrative routine and the "technical discussions".

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page 2

Administrative work of First General Assembly

Within the framework of the first part of its programme it discussed the very comprehensive Report of the Preparatory Committee's Secretary General, Professor J.S. Cayla, Director of the French National School of Public Health at Rennes, and passed a vote of thanks to the Committee for its valuable work. It elected the following Executive Board of the Association

President Professor Dr. J.S. Cayla, representing the "National School of Public Health" at Rennes;

Vice President. Dr. Christian Lucasse, representing the "Royal Tropical Institute" in Amsterdam;

Secretary General. Dr. T.V. Gjurgjevic, representing the "Andrija Stampar School of Public Health" at Zagreb.

It decided also that the next General Assembly to be convened according to the Statutes, at the Institution represented by the Vice-President who automatically becomes President and the Assembly elects a new Vice-President - will be held in Amsterdam in the first week of October, 1970. It also took note that according to article 20 of the Statutes, the headquarters of the Executive Board are located in the place in which the Secretary General resides and that therefore they will be at the Andrija Stampar School of Public Health for the next few years. It fixed the annual contribution of member institutions at US \$ 50.- it also decided on the regular publication of the Association Bulletin about which more will be said hereinafter.

"Technical Discussions" at first General Assembly

Within the framework of the second part of its programme - which in fact took up more than four fifths of the Assembly's time - it heard reports and communications on, and discussed, the following subjects related to the "technical discussions" main theme "modern teaching methods in public health": teaching and/or research field training and demonstration centres, programmed instruction, use of computers in post-graduate training, visual systems - pro and con, teaching methods in environmental sanitation, evaluation of teaching methods, as well as an interesting report on post-graduate studies in public health in Czechoslovakia, representing the pattern prevailing in countries of Eastern Europe.

Present membership and work of Association

The association has 38 members at present. The great majority are from Western European countries. An effort is being made to arouse the interest of institutions in Eastern Europe for a more active participation, and we hope that more may join in the near future and thus take an active part in the activities of the General Assembly next October. In this connection it may be mentioned that the Executive Board has decided that the main theme of "Technical Discussions" would be "Training of Health Personnel in European Institutions for Service in Developing Countries" it being understood that "it would be desirable for them to obtain their basic training in their countries". This brings forward the

page 4

importance of the contribution which the Association about to be founded here now could make to the discussion of this matter.

One, or even several, observers from this Association would be most warmly welcome at our General Assembly in Amsterdam.

Bulletin

It has already been mentioned that the Association **intended** to publish a Bulletin, the first issue of which has been printed a few weeks ago. It is hoped that, according to the financial resources at the Association's disposal, up to four numbers of up to 100 pages each would be published in the course of one calendar year. The contributions (including minutes) would be published in that of the three official languages (English, French and Russian) in which they were made. Reports and articles would be followed by such summaries in other official languages as the author may supply. It is understood that the Bulletin should not become a new scientific review. It will publish short reviews of such articles published, or lectures held, as will be sent to the Association's headquarters. But the Bulletin's main task will be to establish a permanent link between member institutions and publish information on their activities as regards both training and research. To this effect the Association's headquarters will receive regularly a copy of the member institutions annual Reports and/or other documentation on their organization and work. For the present, the Bulletin cannot yet be published at

regular intervals because the Association's finances are limited to the members' contributions. While these were still only partly covered last June, the Executive Board decided to make the Bulletin available to non-members at a price of US \$ 3.- It can be imagined that when the "ultimate goal" i.e. the World Federation of Schools of Public Health is established, it will wish to publish such a Bulletin at regular intervals to keep the member-associations, and through them the member-institutions, informed on various aspects of their professional interests.