

WORLD HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



مُنظمة الصحة العالمية

ORGANISATION MONDIALE  
DE LA SANTÉ

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE  
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

EM/RC30(82)/8  
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Thirtieth Session (1982)

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Agenda item 10

REPORT ON THE TRANSFER OF THE WHO  
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

1. It will be recalled that resolution WHA34.11, adopted on 18 May 1981 by the Thirty-fourth World Health Assembly on the question of "Transfer of the Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean" requested the Director-General, in its operative paragraph 3(a), to "initiate action as contained in paragraph 51 of the Advisory Opinion and report the results to the Sixty-ninth Session of the Executive Board in January 1982 for consideration and recommendation to the Thirty-fifth World Health Assembly in May 1982".

2. To comply with this requirement the Director-General proposed to the Minister of Health of the Government of Egypt that a meeting be arranged between representatives of his Government and the Director-General or his Personal Representative. This meeting convened in Cairo on 3 November 1981 and continued through 6 November. It took place in the offices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the attendance of representatives of the Egyptian Government and the Personal Representative of the Director-General.

3. The report of the Director-General on this meeting was submitted to the Sixty-ninth Session of the Executive Board in January 1982 (document EB69/28 dated 16 November 1981). Following discussion at the Executive Board resolution EB69.R15 was adopted as follows:

The Executive Board,

Recalling resolution WHA34.11 in which the Director-General was requested inter alia to initiate action as contained in paragraph 51 of the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice of 20 December 1980;

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the transfer of the Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean;

1. SUPPORTS the Director-General for the action he has taken to implement resolution WHA34.11 and thanks him for his report;
2. TRANSMITS the report, together with the summary record of the Board's deliberations to the Thirty-fifth World Health Assembly for its consideration and expresses its concern about the Organization's health programme in the Region;
3. REQUESTS the Director-General and the Government of Egypt to continue their consultations in accordance with the whole of paragraph 51 of the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice of 20 December 1980;

4. REQUESTS the Director-General to report to the Thirty-fifth World Health Assembly on the action he has taken.

4. In response to operative paragraph 3 of EB69.R15 a further meeting was held in Cairo at the Offices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs between representatives of the Egyptian Government and the Personal Representative of the Director-General. This second meeting took place in the week beginning 15 March 1982.

5. The report of the Director-General on this second meeting was considered by the Thirty-fifth World Health Assembly in May 1982 (document A35/14 dated 19 April 1982). In addition, the Assembly had before it a communication from the Delegation of Egypt to the Thirty-fifth World Health Assembly dated 27 April 1982 (document A35/INF.DOC./5 dated 30 April 1982) as well as the summary record of the Board's deliberations on the matter, the Executive Board document EB69/28 and its resolution EB69.R15.

6. As a result of the discussions at the Thirty-fifth World Health Assembly the following resolution, WHA35.13, was adopted after a roll call vote by 57 votes in favour, 37 votes against, and 21 abstentions:

The Thirty-fifth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Director-General;

Believing that at this juncture of the Organization's life, when all Member States are striving towards attaining the social goal of Health for All by the Year 2000, they should benefit to the maximum extent possible from the partnership with their Organization in this endeavour;

1. REQUESTS the Director-General and the Government of Egypt to continue, in compliance with resolutions WHA34.11 and EB69.R15, their consultations in accordance with the whole of paragraph 51 of the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice of 20 December 1980;

2. REQUESTS the Director-General to prepare and submit to the Thirty-sixth World Health Assembly a comprehensive study on all the implications and consequences of relocating the Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean from its present site in Alexandria to another site in the region, including, inter alia, a description of the advantages and disadvantages of any such decision, and of all related financial, legal, technical and institutional implications for the World Health Organization and its Member States;

3. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the Director-General for the measures so far taken to ensure as far as possible the effective implementation of health programmes in the Region;

4. REQUESTS further the Director-General to continue to take whatever action he considers necessary to ensure the smooth operation of the technical, administrative and managerial programmes of the Region, including the setting up of any operational facilities he deems necessary, in order to enable all Members of the Region to benefit fully from their Organization until the Assembly has made a decision on the study referred to in operative paragraph 2.