ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Expanded co-operative programme of technical assistance for economic development

Communication dated 17 February 1950 from the World Health Organization to the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has received the following communication from the Director-General of the World Health Organization:

I have the honour to inform you that the Executive Board of the World Health Organization at its fifth session which has just been held in Geneva, adopted the following resolution concerning technical assistance for economic development of under-developed countries:

"In accordance with the instructions of the Second World Health Assembly contained in resolution WHA.2.75 which 'authorized it to act on behalf of the World Health Assembly until its next meeting', the Executive Board,

Having considered the appropriate resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations,

Recommends to the Third World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

'The Third World Health Assembly,

1. Believing that the programme of technical assistance for economic development of under-developed regions, outlined by the Economic and Social Council at its eighth and ninth sessions, offers an opportunity of improving the living standards of the inhabitants of the under-developed regions of the world;

2. Believing that WHO has a significant part to play in this programme, and noting that this fact was recognized in the preliminary discussions which took place on the initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in the discussion at the ninth session of the Economic and Social Council and at the fourth session of the General Assembly;

3. Noting that the General Assembly of the United Nations, subject to the final concurrence of the Special Technical Assistance Conference to be convened in the near future, approved the Economic and Social
Council's proposal that 22 per cent of the funds contributed to the Secretary-General's Special Account for Technical Assistance should be allocated to WHO, together with any such further sums drawn from the proposed reserve fund as may be subsequently agreed by the Technical Assistance Board;

4. Confirming its interest and approval of United Nations resolution 200 (III) with particular reference to paragraph 4 (a) thereof which reads -

'The technical assistance furnished shall (i) not be a means of foreign economic and political interference in the internal affairs of the country concerned and shall not be accompanied by any considerations of a political nature; (ii) be given only to or through Governments; (iii) be designed to meet the needs of the country concerned; (iv) be provided, as far as possible, in the form which that country desires; (v) be of high quality and technical competence' and having noted with interest and approval the resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its 242nd plenary meeting on 16 November 1949 which approves ECOSOC resolution 222 (IX) A of 15 August 1949 and the principles established by ECOSOC entitled "Observations on and Guiding Principles of an Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance for Economic Development";

5. Having considered the programme proposed by the Director-General for the WHO participation in the United Nations Programme of Technical Assistance for Economic Development of under-developed countries, as forwarded by the Executive Board, and the Board's recommendations thereon;

6. Approves that part of the programme contained in Official Records No. 23 entitled "The Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance for Economic Development", as amended, to be WHO's proposals for participation in the second period of the Programme of Technical Assistance for Economic Development and to the extent required to modify the Supplemental Operating Programme of Advisory and Technical Services approved by the Second World Health Assembly for the first period;

7. Authorizes the Executive Board to act on behalf of the World Health Assembly until its next plenary session in connexion with any aspect of this programme;

8. Empowers the Executive Board to:

(i) Consider appropriate resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in connexion with the Programme /of Technical
of Technical Assistance for Economic Development, and to instruct
the Director-General accordingly;
(ii) Authorize the Director-General to participate in the
deliberations of the Technical Assistance Board and to represent
WHO at meetings of the Technical Assistance Conference and the
Technical Assistance Committee and the Economic and Social Council;
(iii) Authorize the Director-General to negotiate for and accept
in 1950 and 1951 such funds as will be made available from the
"Special Account" established by the General Assembly on the
recommendation of the Economic and Social Council subject to any
conditions established by the Executive Board or the World Health
Assembly provided that any conditions attached to the provision
of such funds are consistent with the principles contained in
United Nations resolution 200 (III) with specific reference to
paragraph 4 (6) thereof, and with article 57 of the Constitution;
(iv) Authorize the Director-General to administer the Programme
of Technical Assistance as approved in (5) above, as soon as and
to the extent that funds are made available, subject to policies
or procedures established by the Health Assembly and the Executive
Board, and in conformity with resolution 222 of the ninth session
of ECOSOC;
(v) Authorize the Director-General to the extent that he receives
requests from Governments desiring assistance under the provisions
of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance
for the economic development of under-developed countries to
undertake appropriate technical assistance activities in so far
as these are approved by the Technical Assistance Board even
though such Governments may not be members of the World Health
Organization."

(Signed) BROOK CHISHOLM
Brook Chisholm, M.D.,
Director-General