

tion. The outstanding development in 1957 had been the launching of the campaigns for the eradication of malaria. The Director-General also referred to the growing emphasis in WHO's work on the co-ordination of research. He mentioned as examples studies being carried out on the control of tuberculosis, on the epidemiology of leprosy, on sylvatic plague, on rabies and on brucellosis. One of the most pressing immediate needs continued to be the strengthening of national health services, especially the development of training facilities. During 1957, over one hundred international teaching personnel had been provided and over one thousand fellowships awarded.

Several delegates reported on the satisfactory progress which had been made in combating tuberculosis and leprosy. In Africa in particular, where there were some two million persons affected with leprosy, it seemed likely that in the near future all cases would be under regular treatment. In the same region, where some twenty million people were affected by yaws, thirteen million of the population in endemic areas had been examined and more than seven million treated. It was possible that yaws could be eradicated in Africa in the near future. It was reported that since 1954 no cases of smallpox had occurred in North America, Mexico, Central America or the Caribbean, and that there was a considerable reduction in incidence in South America. There was considerable discussion of the need to provide adequate training facilities for physicians, nurses and auxiliary health personnel, which continued to be one of the chief problems facing public health administrations, particularly in the less well-developed countries.

The eleventh Assembly adopted unanimously (for the first time in WHO's history) an effective working budget for 1959 of \$14.3 million. It called for a study of the possibility of eradicating smallpox and considered the role which WHO should play in the fields of atomic energy research and cancer research.

The Assembly adopted a sixteen-power resolution (co-sponsored by Canada) which emphasized the importance of avoiding duplication, in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy, of the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and other Specialized Agencies, as well as competent non-governmental organizations. It encouraged the Director-General to expedite negotiations with the IAEA for a draft agreement of co-operation and requested the Executive Board to establish a committee to be available for consultation by the Director-General for further negotiations with the IAEA.

Part of WHO's work is administered through its six regional committees, each dealing with the health problems of its own geographical region. By special arrangement these responsibilities in the American region are delegated to the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), which, under the name of the Pan-American Sanitary Organization, was originally established in 1902. The fifteenth Pan-American Sanitary Conference (which performed the functions of the WHO Regional Committee for the Americas) was held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, from September 21 to October 3, 1958. It was attended by delegates from the 21 member states of PAHO and by an