



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



26th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE **54th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

Washington, D.C., USA, 23-27 September 2002

Provisional Agenda Item 3.3

CSP26/4 (Eng.)

9 July 2002

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU AND NOMINATION OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION FOR THE AMERICAS

Article 4, paragraph E, of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization, which has been amended and will be in force as of the opening date of this 26th Pan American Sanitary Conference, provides that: "The Conference shall elect the Director of the Bureau in accordance with Article 21, paragraph A, of the Constitution." Article 21, paragraph A, prescribes that: "The Bureau shall have a Director elected at the Conference by the vote of a majority of the Governments of the Organization. The Director shall hold office for a period of five years, and may not be reelected more than once."

The name of the person elected as Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is communicated to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization so it can appoint the person elected as Regional Director for the Americas. This communication is based on Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, which states that: "Acting as Regional Committee of the World Health Organization, and in conformity with Articles 49 and 52 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, the Conference shall submit to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization the name of the person so elected, for appointment as Regional Director."

The election procedure is described in Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, as follows: "The Conference shall elect the Director by secret ballot, in conformity with Article 21, paragraph A, of the Constitution. Before voting is begun, Members and Associate Members that wish to do so may nominate any person they deem suitable for the post, but no official list of candidates shall be drawn up, no eligibility requirements shall be established, and votes may be cast for a person whether nominated or not. If in the first two ballots no person receives the majority required, two further ballots restricted to the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes in the second of the

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unrestricted ballots shall then be taken. If no candidate receives the majority required, two unrestricted and two restricted ballots shall be taken alternately, until a candidate is elected."

Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure of the Pan American Sanitary Conference states that "majority" means, in the case of the election of the Director, "...any number of votes greater than half the number of the Members of the Organization." There being 38 Member and Participating Governments of the Pan American Health Organization, "majority" is thus any number of votes greater than 19, that is, 20 or more votes.

In accordance with the constitutional provisions then applicable, the 25th Pan American Sanitary Conference (1998) elected the present Director for a period of four years, beginning on 1 February 1999 and ending on 31 January 2003. In view of the constitutional amendments now in force, it is incumbent on the 26th Pan American Sanitary Conference to elect the Director of the Bureau for a period of five years, beginning on 1 February 2003 and ending on 31 January 2008.

Once a candidate has received the majority required, the Conference may wish to adopt a resolution along the following lines:

Proposed Resolution

THE 26th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,

Bearing in mind Articles 4.E and 21.A of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization, which provide that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall have a Director elected at the Conference by the vote of a majority of the Governments of the Organization;

Bearing in mind Article 4 of the Agreement between the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization and Article 52 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, which establish the procedure for the appointment of Regional Directors of the World Health Organization; and

Satisfied that the election of the Director of the Bureau has been held in accordance with the established procedures,

Resolves:

1. To declare _____ elected Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau for a period of five years to begin 1 February 2003.
2. To submit to the Executive Board of the World Health Organization the name of _____ for appointment as Regional Director for the Americas.