



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



128th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 25-29 June 2001

Provisional Agenda Item 5.3

CE128/22 (Eng.)

3 April 2001

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PAHO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

This document reports on previously approved projects financed from PAHO the PAHO Building Fund and extrabudgetary sources.

1. Status of Previously Approved Projects Financed from the PAHO Building Fund

Resolution CD31.R12 of the 31st Directing Council (1985) provided for the capitalization of the PAHO Building Fund on a permanent basis to meet the costs of major maintenance and repairs of PAHO-owned buildings. The following activity has occurred since the last report to the Committee in June 2000.

1.1 *Maintenance and Repair of the PAHO/WHO Office in Brasil*

The major repairs to the PAHO/WHO office in Brasilia, Brazil, in progress since 1995, were fully completed in early 2001 at a total cost of US\$ 766,000. The work included repairs to roofs, windows, walls, and floors; electrical upgrades; bathroom remodeling; photocopy facilities; installation of an elevator; and construction of a new Documentation Center.

1.2 *Renovation of PAHO Headquarters Building*

At its June 2000 meeting, the Executive Committee approved a temporary increase in the Building Fund ceiling to \$13 million to complete the renovation of the PAHO Headquarters Building.

A full presentation will be made during the Committee Session, providing an update on the progress of work through June 2001.

./..

As of the time of preparation of this document, the work was on schedule for completion on 31 December 2001 within the \$13 million budget. The principal project components remain unchanged from those presented to the Committee last year:

- Replacement/repair of obsolete and worn-out mechanical systems
- Removal of asbestos-containing materials from the building
- Compliance with local building codes and access for disabled persons
- Better accommodation of staff through more efficient use of limited space
- Provision of a working environment more conducive to good ergonomic practices

At its 107th Session in January 2001, the WHO Executive Board passed Resolution EB107.R5 recommending (*inter alia*) that the World Health Assembly authorize financing from the WHO Real Estate Fund of PAHO/HQ project expenditures at an estimated cost of \$3.25 million (25% of the total). As of the time of preparation of this document, it was anticipated that the Fifty-fourth World Health Assembly would give its approval in May 2001.

2. Modifications to PAHO/WHO Office in Venezuela

As reported to the Committee on prior occasions, modifications were required to the PAHO-owned RWR's office in Caracas, Venezuela, including repositioning of air conditioning equipment, relocation of storage areas, modification of internal partitioning, and construction of additional bathrooms. This work has now been completed at a cost of \$170,000 in reprogrammed regular budget funds.