



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



134th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 21-25 June 2004

Provisional Agenda Item 5.4

CE134/19 (Eng.)

14 May 2004

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PAHO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Infrastructure and Foundation Repairs

1. This document reports on infrastructure repairs of the PAHO Headquarters Building previously approved by the Executive Committee using the PAHO Building Fund resources.
2. Prior to embarking on this major infrastructure repair project, General Services Operations (GSO) obtained a detailed study from a professional engineering firm regarding the structural integrity and damage to the original basement and subbasement levels after 38 years of continuous use. Their report revealed greater-than-expected levels of damage and thus a more complicated and expensive repair program. The garage levels should be repaired to meet current building codes. The engineering firm's September 2003 cost estimate was US\$ 712,000. The Executive Committee had approved \$220,000 in June 2002.
3. The 2002 cost estimate included partitioning off alternating sections of damaged areas for after-hours and weekend repair over a lengthy period of time, depending upon the damage found. This patchwork approach would not have prevented repairs in additional areas in the near future. The 2003 analysis by the engineering firm recommends a total closing of the garage to permit unimpeded repairs in a minimum timeframe. Substantial amounts of concrete slabs will be replaced in the basement level with some additional repairs to the subbasement. The original cost estimate did not include allowances for temporary location of the more than 120 vehicles that are parked in the garage on a daily basis. Nor did it allow for permanent installation of utility lines, such as electricity, water, and computer networking that run through these levels of the building. Finally, the more thorough examination in 2003 revealed greater damage than previously expected. The budget estimate for the project is \$712,000.

4. The most favorable period for repairs is the summer months when many staff are on vacation, resulting in the lowest number of vehicles to be relocated. The damage does not pose any immediate danger to staff, but the damage and resulting cost for repair will only increase with time. PAHO management plans a summer 2005 repair period.

5. In addition to the \$220,000 approved by the 2002 Executive Committee, PAHO has received \$97,000 from the 2004-2005 WHO Building Fund. PAHO will approach WHO Headquarters for additional funding under their infrastructure program to cover the \$395,000 shortfall.

Action by the Executive Committee

6. PAHO requests approval from the Executive Committee to proceed with this important initiative.

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