Basis of EPI

ANNEX 1

TWENTY-SEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA27.57

23 May 1974

WHO EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION

The Twenty-seventh World Health Assembly,

Having considered the statement on immunization against the childhood diseases and the allocation of funds for an integrated programme on immunization contained in the proposed programme and budget estimates for 1975;[1]

Recognizing the immense contribution immunization has made to the control of many of the common communicable diseases in the countries where it has been effectively applied;

Noting that in extensive regions of the world immunization is available for only a small proportion of children in the susceptible age-groups;

Aware of the potential for disease control when a well-planned and well-coordinated programme is instituted;

Reaffirming the importance of systematic immunization programmes in all countries; and

Expressing its satisfaction at the readiness of the World Health Organization to further promote measures to assist countries in extending their immunization programmes to cover the greatest possible percentage of the susceptible populations,

1. RECOMMENDS that Member States develop or maintain immunization and surveillance programmes against some or all of the following diseases: diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, smallpox and others, where applicable, according to the epidemiological situation in their respective countries;

2. REQUESTS the Director-General

(a) to intensify at all levels of the Organization its activities pertaining to the development of immunization programmes, especially for the developing countries;

(b) to assist Member States (i) in developing suitable programmes by providing technical advice on the use of vaccines and (ii) in assuring the availability of good-quality vaccines at reasonable cost;

(c) to study the possibilities of providing from international sources and agencies an increased supply of vaccines, equipment and transport and developing local competence to produce vaccines at the national level;

(d) to continue to support research on the efficacy of vaccines and on as yet unsolved practical problems encountered in immunization procedures;

(e) to arrange seminars and other educational activities on the design and execution of programmes; and

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[1] Off. Rec. Wld Hlth Org., No. 212, pp. 142 and 146.

3. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director-General

(a) to establish a special account under the Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion to be credited with the values of gifts intended for the expanded programme on immunization and to ensure that vaccines donated to the programme conform with the relevant WHO requirements;

(b) to report progress annually to the World Health Assembly.

Fourteenth plenary meeting, 23 May 1974
A27/VR/14