PART II

GENERAL

1. REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The ninth session of the Regional Committee was held at the Regional Office in New Delhi from 24 to 29 September 1956. Representatives of all the Member States except France attended.

The Committee discussed the Eighth Annual Report of the Regional Director, a number of important points emerging from the discussion. After making a detailed scrutiny of the programme and budget estimates, the Committee approved the regular programme and budget for 1958 with some amendments and endorsed the Technical Assistance Programme. Two days of the session were devoted to the technical discussions on "How Can School Health Education Be Made More Effective in South-East Asia?", and recommendations were made on such questions as the personnel to be used in health education programmes in schools, training facilities, improvement in the sanitary environment of the schools, and the cooperation of government departments and voluntary agencies.

The Regional Director's tentative proposals for a phased programme to eradicate malaria in the Region were approved in principle, and he was requested to negotiate with individual governments on these proposals.

The Regional Committee considered that the present pattern of regionalization was working to the complete satisfaction of the governments of the Region and should be continued without any change.

With regard to the matter of permanent accommodation for the Regional Office, it was stated by the representative of India that the question of constructing a new building was under active consideration by the Government. In the meantime the Regional Office would remain undisturbed in its present location.

In the field of public information, the Regional Director's proposals for the issue of a tenth anniversary booklet on health progress in South-East Asia, the establishment of a "WHO Feature Service", and the encouragement of the production of short films on local health problems were accepted by the Committee.

2. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Organizational Structure

The following changes in the pattern of the Regional Office took place during the year:

A post of Regional Adviser in Medical Education was re-established in January 1957 and filled by a short-term consultant.
ASEAN is the premier regional association in East Asia and the most prominent regional grouping in the Third World. Since its inauguration in 1967, during the height of the wars in Indochina, ASEAN has come to be regarded as an important factor for stability in Southeast Asia through its own cooperative activities, its policies of maintaining active dialogues with the major powers and other Asia-Pacific countries, and its promotion of wider cooperation forums in East Asia and the Asia-Pacific. In 1974 Australia was the first country to establish a m... ASEAN’s prestige was compromised by the adverse regional impact of the Asian financial crisis (from July 1997), which reduced growth rates in many members.