



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

May 4, 1961

Dear Dr. Garcia:

We have received from Senator Yarborough your letter of March 19, 1961, making further inquiries about the World Health Assembly and the United States Delegation to it.

The World Health Assembly, composed of delegations from the 109 Member States of the World Health Organization, meets each year to consider and adopt a WHO program and budget for the following year and in general to discuss and make decisions on matters of concern to WHO. The Health Assembly normally meets for about two and one half weeks in May, but the 14th World Health Assembly, 1961, met in February for climatic reasons, since it was held in New Delhi at the invitation of the Government of India. The 15th Assembly is expected to meet in Geneva, Switzerland, in May, 1962.

The United States Delegation to the World Health Assembly normally consists of three Delegates, with the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service as Chief Delegate, three or four Alternates, and a number of Advisors. The Delegation is appointed by the Department of State (with the approval of the White House as regards Delegates and Alternates), and usually includes both national and State Government officials, and outstanding leaders in the field of health, especially preventive medicine, in the United States. When a Delegation is being formed, careful consideration is given to the qualifications of individuals who may be available to serve on it, and we are glad to know of your interest in the World Health Assembly.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State

Otis Mulliken

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