

CHOLERA
কলেরা
কিন্সাড

Glimpse

international centre for
diarrhoeal disease research, bangladesh
NEWSLETTER

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(Compilation)

INTERNATIONAL MEETING ENDORSES ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR DIARRHOEAL DISEASES RESEARCH

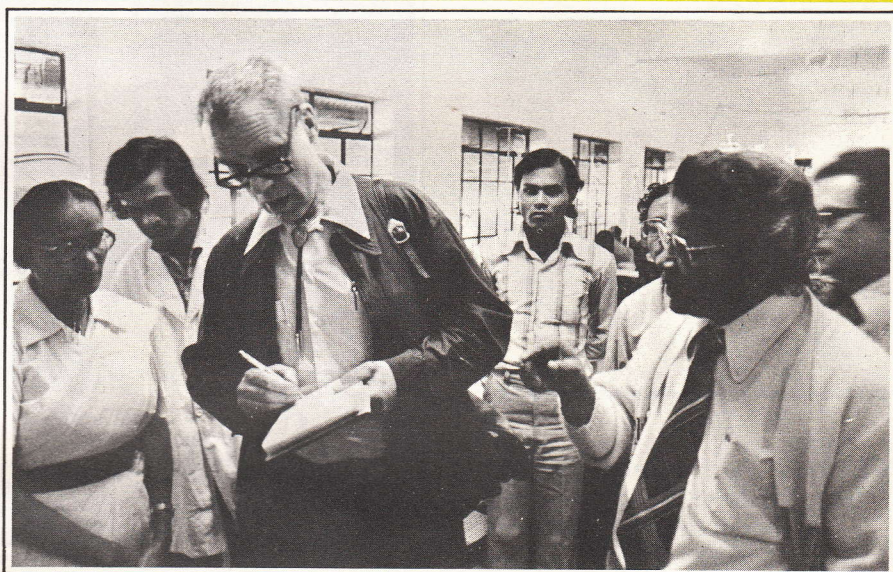
(Press release of the United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh)

At an international meeting held in Geneva on 13-14 February 1979 final arrangements were made for the establishment of the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B). The Meeting was convened and chaired by UNDP and hosted by WHO.

The new International Centre is the successor to the Cholera Research Laboratory which has been operating in Bangladesh for the past twenty years. The new Centre will undertake research, training and information dissemination on the diarrhoeal diseases and directly related subjects of nutrition and population with special relevance to developing countries.

About fifty participants representing 26 developing and developed countries and multilateral and non-governmental organizations attended the meeting. The meeting was inaugurated by the Director General of WHO, Dr. Halfdan Mahler.

The meeting endorsed the ordinance establishing the Centre which was promulgated by the Government of Bangladesh in December 1978. It also reviewed a



Prof. Ouchterlony of University of Goteborg, Sweden is discussing and taking notes at the 'Jamiul Alam Treatment Centre' of ICDDR,B.

Memorandum of Understanding acknowledging the Ordinance which established the Centre and signifying intention to support and cooperate in the work of the Centre. The Memorandum was signed by sixteen countries and organizations at the meeting in Geneva and it is now open for other signatures at the UNDP office in Dacca, Bangladesh.

The meeting also reviewed the scientific programme and financial requirements of the new Centre. Indications of support from various agencies amounted to about US \$ 16 million over the next five years out of a total projected requirement of US \$ 27 million.

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EMINENT SWEDISH SCIENTISTS VISIT ICDDR,B

Three Swedish scientists, Professor Orion Ouchterlony, Professor Gunnel Hult and Professor Tord Holme visited ICDDR,B from 17th to 19th January 1979. The three are from the University of Goteborg, Goteborg; the National Bacteriological Laboratory, Stockholm, and the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm respectively. They participated in discussions of the ongoing research projects in microbiology and immunology; ICDDR,B scientists benefited greatly from the discussions. It is hoped that ways could be found to increase scientific collaboration between ICDDR,B and Swedish investigators.

ICDDR,B Collaborates in Training Programme Jointly Sponsored by Govt. Health Service and WHO, in Chandpur

ICDDR,B was invited to collaborate in a training programme for medical officers of Chandpur subdivision, which was sponsored jointly by Bangladesh Govt. health service and WHO and was held in Chandpur from December 7 to December 9, 1978.

Government health service was represented by Civil Surgeon, Comilla and Deputy Civil Surgeon, Chandpur, while WHO representation was done by Dr. Aung Myat, WHO Epidemiologist.

ICDDR,B was represented by Drs. A. S. M. Mizanur Rahman and Md. Yunus. The training course included management, epidemiology, and surveillance of cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases, along with a visit to Matlab field station of ICDDR,B for practical demonstrations. About twenty medical officers attended the training course.

ICDDR,B Participates in the International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences

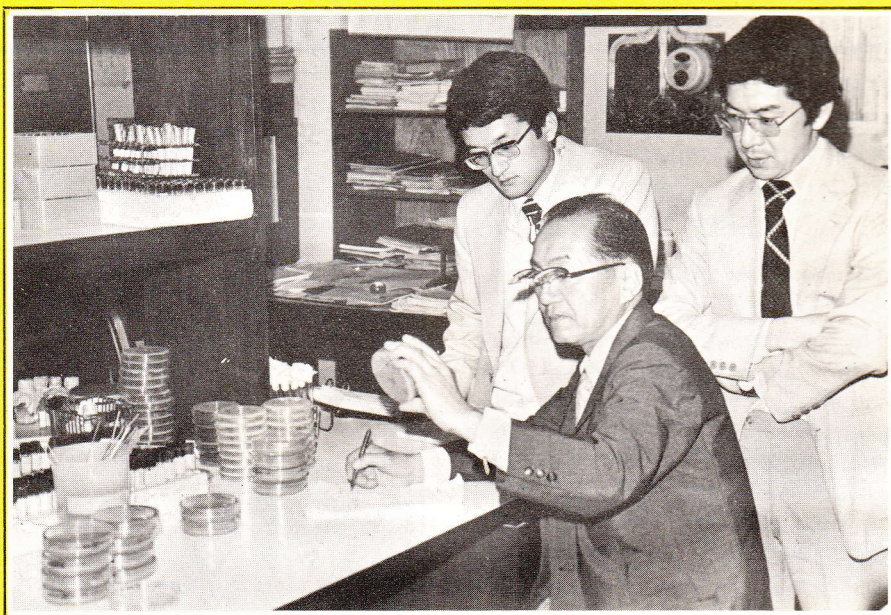
Mr. K.M.A. Aziz, Investigator of International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh participated in the Xth International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, December 10-16, 1978 in New Delhi, India. He also participated in the post-plenary session of this Congress held at Poona, India. Mr. Aziz presented papers in both places. At New Delhi he presented: "Sex Bias in the Patterns of Verbal Abuse Related to Sexual Characteristics and Behaviour in a Rural Area of Bangladesh." The paper presented at Poona was entitled "Role of Learned Behaviour in the Transmission of Cholera." The first paper was presented in a session on "Literacy and Language Use" and the other

paper was presented in the session on "Medical Anthropology."

The plenary session at New Delhi was attended by 2000 delegates from about 80 nations and 1000 delegates from India. Mr. Aziz while narrating his experience, reported that scientists in the post-plenary session on medical anthropology emphasized the importance of the anthropological approach in conducting field studies in the area of disease transmission and prevention.

JAPANESE DOCTORS VISIT ICDDR,B

Drs. Tatsuro Naito, Toshiaki Hayashi, Hideaki Shigeno of Department of Bacteriology, Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nagasaki University, Nagasaki, Japan visited ICDDR,B from February 4 to February 9, 1979. During their stay they worked on the inhibitory effect of bacteriocin produced by some indicator strains, on the *Vibrio cholerae* isolated during the last few years.



Dr. Naito, Dr. Hayashi and Dr. Shigeno from Nagasaki University, Japan are working in Microbiology Branch of ICDDR,B.

ICDDR,B PARTICIPATES IN THE SEMINAR ON COMPREHENSIVE AND COORDINATED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME HELD IN DACCA

A seminar on "Comprehensive and coordinated medical research programme" sponsored by the Ministry of Health of the Government of Bangladesh, the World Health Organization and the Bangladesh Medical Research Council was held on 18th to 20th January 1979 at the Institute of Public Health in Dacca. Dr. M. Mujibur Rahaman, Deputy Director, and Mr. Md. Imdadul Huq, Head, Microbiology Branch participated in the conference and presented papers

during the session on "Diarrhoeal research programme of Bangladesh". Dr. Rahaman stressed the need for a) studies on the aetiology of diarrhoea in children, b) conducting a national diarrhoea surveillance and control programme, c) vaccine development and elucidation of intestinal immunity to diarrhoea and d) studies on relationship between diarrhoea control and nutrition. He also stressed the importance of extension of oral therapy to the villages.

Mr. Huq in his paper on the "Microbiological aspects of diarrhoeal diseases" described the organisms associated with the diarrhoeal diseases, the microbiological diagnosis of the causative organisms and the detection

of toxigenicity, pathogenecity and antibiotic sensitivity of the pathogenic organisms. The presentation put forward recommendations for consideration in developing the future programme.

SCIENTISTS FROM ICDDR,B PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES HELD IN INDIA

The VIII National Conference on Communicable Diseases was held at the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health on 8—10 December 1978 under the auspices of Indian Association for Communicable Diseases. From ICDDR,B Dr. W.B. Greenough, III, Scientific Director, Dr. David A. Sack, Investigator and Mr. Md. Imdadul Huq, Head, Microbiology Branch were invited to attend the meeting.

Dr. Sack presented a paper at the conference entitled "Bacterial profile and clinical vaccination of acute diarrheal diseases" in which he stressed the role of enterotoxigenic *E. coli*, non-agglutinating vibrio and rotavirus as well as El Tor *V. Cholerae* in causing diarrhoeal disease. Based on studies at ICDDR,B the clinical and epidemiologic picture of these agents in Bangladesh is becoming more clear and in nearly all cases, oral therapy is successful in rehydration. Dr. Sack also read a paper by Dr. Greenough, entitled "Pathogenesis of acute diarrhea" which

summarized the current understanding of the mechanisms by which the infectious agents cause diarrhoea. Mr. Huq presented "Characterisation of non-agglutinating vibrios and vibrio parahaemolyticus isolated from patients with diarrhea in Bangladesh" in which he pointed out the incidence of these vibrios over the past five years. He also described a short lived epidemic of diarrhoea due to an unknown group of organisms provisionally named EF₆. Production of toxin from these organisms was also discussed.

Community Training Project in Chandpur Sub-division

ICDDR,B has opened a community training project on diarrhoeal management and related health education in Chandpur sub-division of Comilla district, Bangladesh. The project began functioning in October, 1978.

Twenty-two villages under Chandpur Police Station (with a population of about thirty thousand) have been selected on a pilot basis for this project. The project is expected to be extended gradually in the whole Sub-division with the knowledge and experience gained from this pilot scheme. While everybody from the community will be encouraged to take part in the training, mothers in every family are specially targeted for this purpose. The pilot scheme is designed to find the

most effective practical modality involving the members of the community in general, and mothers in particular, in the management of diarrhoea.

VISITORS AT ICDDR,B DURING JANUARY 1979

Dr. Retno Iswari, Department of Microbiology, University of Indonesia.

Dr. Gunnel Hultdt, Associate Professor, Chief, Department of Parasitology, Bacteriology Laboratory, Karolinska Institute, Sweden.

Mr. Harold Graves, Consultant for Internationalization, U.S.A.

Professor Tord Holme, Head, Department of Bacteriology, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden.

Mr. Richard Manning, Head, South East Asia Development Division, Ministry of Overseas Development, London, U.K.

Dr. David Pyke (Endocrinologist), Registrar, Royal College of Physicians, London, U.K.

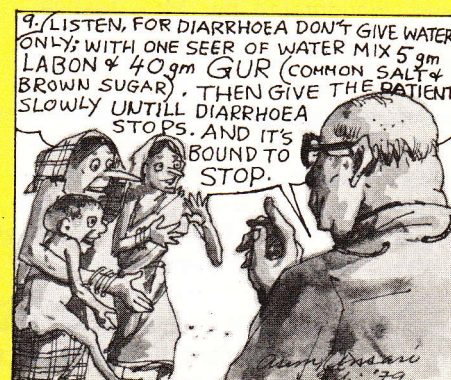
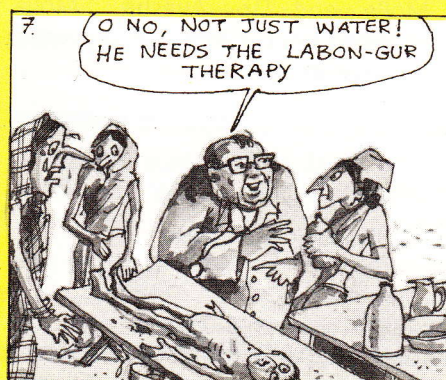
Dr. L. T. Ruzicka, Department of Demography, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, Australia.

Dr. Sook Bang, ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand.

Dr. Henry Gelfand, Epidemiologist, University of North Carolina Population Laboratories, U.S.A.

Dr. H. Logan, University of North Carolina Population Laboratories, U.S.A.

Dr. James Shelton, AID, Washington, U.S.A.



INTERNATIONAL MEETING ENDORSES

In accordance with the ordinance, the meeting selected the first Board of Trustees of the ICDDR,B. In addition to three trustees nominated by the Government of Bangladesh, and one by WHO, the meeting named eleven at-large members. The elected at-large members were: Dr. A.R.A. Al-Awadi (Kuwait), Dr. D. J. Bradley (United Kingdom), Dr. C. C. J. Carpenter (USA), Dr. J. Holmgren (Sweden), Dr. G.W. Jones (Australia), Professor J. Kostrzewski (Poland), Professor L.J. Mata (Costa Rica), Dr. V. Ramalingaswami (India), Dr. J. Sulianti Saroso (Indonesia), Dr. O. M. Solandt (Canada), Dr. M. K. Were (Kenya). The WHO nominated Dr. Albert Zahra (WHO in Geneva). The Government of Bangladesh nominated Professor Badruddoza Chowdhury, Professor M.A. Matin, and Mr. M. K. Anwar (all of Bangladesh). The Director of the Centre (Dr. W.H. Mosley) will also sit on the Board. The Board of Trustees is expected to hold its first meeting in Dacca in May 1979.

ICDDR,B IS RUNNERS-UP IN THE NATIONAL FLOWER SHOW

The General Services Branch of ICDDR,B was runners-up in the National Flower Show and Garden Competition organized by the National Recreation Association held at the Children's Park near Bangobhavan in Dacca on February 4, 1979. Among fifty participants the ICDDR,B earned 11 first, 3 second and 2 third place prizes. The show was inaugurated by Mr. Justice A. Satter, Vice President of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh.

WHO WORKING GROUP ON RESEARCH IN ORAL REHY- DRATION MEETS IN NEW DELHI

Scientists from Indonesia, the Philippines, Egypt, Nigeria, U. K., India, U.S. and Nepal met for five days at the WHO Regional Office in New Delhi to consider the current state of knowledge about oral rehydration therapy in diarrhoea. On the basis of this information programmes for further research were written and priorities suggested. An intense effort to devise the most effective ways to implement current knowledge through education and provision of measuring devices for salt and water were seen as most urgently needed. Further basic studies aimed toward evaluation of simplified solution were urged and adequate attention to nutrition during and after diarrhoea was believed crucial. Dr. W. B. Greenough, III, acted as chairman of the meeting. Dr. M. M. Rahaman participated and scientists previously at CRL including Dr. Jon Rohde, Dr. David Nalin and Dr. Michael Merson were present.

SEMINAR ON TECHNOLOGY, SOCIETY AND CULTURE AT ICDDR,B

Dr. B.D. Nag Choudhury, former Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi presented a lecture on "Technology, Society and Culture" in a seminar at ICDDR,B on February 5, 1979. Dr. Choudhury leaned heavily on anthropology as he presented biological and sociological definitions of man. The uniqueness of humans could be viewed in their capacity for language, social orga-

News and Views of Readers

Appropriate remarks, news or views by the readers will be considered for publication in this newsletter. However these remarks if intended for publication in this newsletter should not exceed 200 words.

nization and technology he said. Dr. Choudhury then elaborated on the relation between science and technology in the context of the evolution of culture.



Dr. B.D. Nag Choudhury, former Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University is presenting a lecture at ICDDR,B.

ICDDR,B SCIENTIST HON- OURED ABROAD

Dr. A. Majid Molla, Senior Investigator, ICDDR,B has been made permanent member of the Belgian Society of Paediatrics in a special meeting of the Society in Brussels. Both Dr. A. M. Molla and Dr. Ayesha Molla obtained Ph. D.s from the University of Louvain, Belgium.

Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief : Dr. K. M. S. Aziz

Members : Dr. W.B. Greenough, III, Dr. Stan Becker, Majibur Rahman and M. Shamsul Islam Khan.

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