

JAN 7 1972

**WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ**

1211 GENEVA 27 - SWITZERLAND
Telegr.: UNISANTE-Geneva

Tél. 34 60 61 Télex. 22335

1211 GENÈVE 27 - SUISSE
Télégr.: UNISANTÉ-Genève

In reply please refer to: **M8/136/2**
Prière de rappeler la référence:

4 January 1972

Dear Josh,

You will recall our conversation when I was in California about your joining the Advisory Committee on Medical Research (ACMR), although you indicated you would not be able to attend the session from 26-30 June in 1972 because of previous commitments. I sent you from Philadelphia some background information on the ACMR.

Dr Candau was very glad to hear of your willingness to serve on the ACMR and he will send you shortly a letter of invitation. In order to keep the rotation of appointments in harmony, the invitation will be made to begin in 1972 with the hope that you still might find it possible to attend. We should particularly like you to do so in view of a round-table discussion I am trying to arrange as part of the agenda for the 1972 meeting. This would consist of a discussion of the implications for WHO research with respect to the controversy about pursuing research in certain sensitive areas such as genetic engineering, recombination experiments with infective micro-organisms, and research with tumour viruses. As you know, Macfarlane Burnet has been one of the strong proponents of slowing down and even stopping research in molecular biology, and this is causing great concern in research circles. I am trying to arrange his attendance at the forthcoming ACMR. In addition to the listed ACMR members we expect Lwoff, Monod (who will probably take Lwoff's place as a full member of the ACMR), Koprowski and perhaps one or two others to attend. We hope very much therefore that you will be able to arrange your schedule so as to be at the 1972 session also.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Kaplan