

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE
UNDER-SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Athens 08.09.1977
Ref. No 2225

To : THE CHAIRMAN OF CPT
Mr CLAUDE NIKOLAY

Mr Chairman,

We would like to thank CPT for the positive and productive observations included in its report ref.No FO9318/1345, which followed the CPT delegation's visit to the Children's Psychiatric Hospital of Attica on November 4-6, 1996.

We believe that our fruitful talks, which are mentioned in your document, will continue in order for our joint efforts towards the best possible living conditions and rehabilitation of the mentally ill to be completed.

Furthermore, I would like to express my satisfaction that the CPT delegation commented on the high level of the cooperation of this Ministry's services in a spirit of wide cooperation.

Specifically as regards the CPT recommendations based on the facts established during the CPT delegation's visit at the Children's Psychiatric Hospital of Attica, we would like to inform you as follows :

1. Par. 13 An effort has been made to increase the number of specialized personnel involved in the treatment activities, within the frame allowed by our financial policy.

Specifically, the following have been employed and now offering their services :

3 psychologists

1 physical education trainer

2 ergotherapists

3 nurses, having completed a 3-year training course.

* The following will be employed after the completion of the selection procedure, which is at hand :

5 nurses, having completed a 3-year training course

3 nurses, having completed a 2-year training course

* The public contest for the employment of the following is now in the announcement stage:

2 physical therapists, having completed a 3-year training course

2 ergotherapists

1 pharmacist's assistant

*Furthermore, the specialized personnel has been re-assigned per clinic, based on an operational criterion. This re-assignment achieved the staffing of every clinic with key personnel, allowing the implementation of treatment programs involving various activities.

* As regards the filling of vacant doctor's positions the following have been filled :

3 children's psychiatrists positions

while the employment of another 4 children's psychiatrists is still in the selection procedure.

2. Par. 16 Regarding the projects scheduled to take place:

a. The renovation and remodelling works on the closed building, which on the survey plan (received by the Committee) is indicated under No 8, have already begun. It is estimated that the project will have been completed by December and the patients of department A will be transferred there. Then, the renovation of Pavillon C and the Department of Neurology will follow according to plan.

b. In early October Pavillon 1 will start to be emptied. The patients of Pavillon C or the Department of Neurology will be transferred there and the repair or renovation works will start on the vacated building.

c. As to the Emergency Unit, the physicians in charge have given their views as to the layout of the Unit grounds, depending on the treatment programs to take place. A technical study on the layout will follow.

e. As to the WC, anti-skid carpets have been placed towards the prevention of accidents, and the doors in Department A and Pavillon C have been put in place.

3. Par 19-20 With the increased number of specialised personnel and its operational re-assignment, the development of programs involving both group treatment as well as individualised treatment is now possible.

4. Par. 21 With the employment of the trainer's (physical education trainer) services, emphasis will be placed, in co-operation with the various departments, on the development of programs providing for the care of patients' fitness.

5. Par. 22 Due to the particular character of this Hospital, which is a children's hospital, the majority of the cases are contagious diseases.

The Hospital's intra-clinical Infection Board conducts periodical inspections, processes the data and proceeds to notifications, controls and vaccinations, as required.

6. Par. 23 As the Hospital's Chairman explained to the Committee, during its visit, this particular isolation area is closed, it is not operational.
7. Par. 24 The requested information is not available for the moment due to the lack of response from the scientific committee of the institutes.
8. Par. 26 Measures have been taken and those patients, whose condition did not require hospitalisation in the Emergency Unit, were transferred to various Pavillons, and no such admission was made. Newly-admitted patients remain in that unit as long as their treatment requires.
The patients administration office registers all the patients' transfers, admissions, releases.
9. Par. 27 Efforts are made towards an increase in the number of foster families, the return of adult patients in institutes suitable to deal with their cases and in psychiatric clinics intended for adults. These activities are in process and materialise according to our financial abilities.

The Under-secretary of Health and Welfare

EMMANUEL SKOULAKIS