

WHO at the Palais des Nations

1946

Interim Commission



1948

Formal establishment of WHO

WHO staff and delegates to the first World Health Assembly



1950

WHO gets bigger and the Palais becomes too small



Construction of extension to the Palais des Nations (Ariana wing) for WHO use

Decision to construct a new building

1959

At the 12th World Health Assembly a resolution was passed in favour of providing WHO its own headquarters building, and a site between Petit-Saconnex and Pregny-Chambésy was chosen



The building resolution



The building site 1959

1959

1960

International competition held for building project



Third prize design, by Jean Dubuisson of France



Second prize design, by Eero Saarinen of The USA



First prize design, by Jean Tschumi of Switzerland



Profile of Tschumi plan showing main building



Tschumi plan showing interior of building

