



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## 128th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Washington, D.C., 25-29 June 2001*

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CE128.R16***

#### **ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) IN THE AMERICAS**

##### ***THE 128th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,***

Having analyzed the report on acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the Americas (Document CE128/9 and Add. I),

##### ***RESOLVES:***

To recommend that the Directing Council adopt a resolution along the following lines:

##### ***THE 43rd DIRECTING COUNCIL,***

Having analyzed and discussed the report on acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the Americas (Document CD43\_\_/);

Considering the trends in the HIV/AIDS/STI epidemic in the Americas and their present and future impact on young people, women, and children;

Aware of the need to apply and extend the coverage of effective, affordable methods and technologies to the most vulnerable populations by strengthening health systems and services;

Recognizing the need for a commitment by governments and society to respond effectively and with solidarity to needs for the prevention and treatment of HIV infection, AIDS, and sexually transmitted infections in the Member States of the Region; and

Taking into account the Plan of Action, Annex A, #14, Health, of the III Summit of the Americas (Quebec, Canada, 20-22 April 2001), Resolution WHA54.10 of the World Health Assembly, and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS of the 26th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly (New York, the United States, 25-27 June 2001),

***RESOLVES:***

1. To urge the Member States to:
  - (a) actively contribute to the time-bound goals set at the June 2001 special session of the United Nations General Assembly in its Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;
  - (b) accord HIV/AIDS/STI the highest-level of priority among health and development issues and to allocate the necessary and essential resources for their prevention and control, including financial and human resources to curb and reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS/STI;
  - (c) focus greater efforts on preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections through education, mass communication, social marketing, voluntary counseling and testing, and the promotion of sexual health, targeting young adults and adolescents in particular;
  - (d) heighten their national response, promoting greater intersectoral involvement that includes the private sector and broadening the coverage and scope of the prevention and care services for the communities most affected by and vulnerable to the epidemic;
  - (e) continue to fight the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS by strengthening the necessary legislative measures and raising awareness among the population;
  - (f) join and support subregional initiatives such as the Pan Caribbean Plan for the Prevention and Treatment of HIV/AIDS/STI, horizontal cooperation processes, and the development of networks for cooperation among countries.

2. To request the Director to:
  - (a) continue to facilitate the interagency, interinstitutional, and intersectoral response promoted by UNAIDS to support the design, execution, and evaluation of national and regional strategic plans and programs for the prevention of HIV/AIDS/STI;
  - (b) promote increased capacity to offer comprehensive care to people with HIV/AIDS in the Americas, including greater access to drugs, both antiretrovirals and drugs against opportunistic infections, and clinical laboratory supplies;
  - (c) build on PAHO's experience and that of its partners in addressing gender issues, including the vulnerability of women and the role of men, as an integral part of HIV prevention activities.

*(Eighth meeting, 28 June 2001)*