

# XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference

## XVIII Regional Committee Meeting



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ORIGINAL: SPANISH

### PLANNED CONSOLIDATION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS

#### Item proposed by the Government of Chile

For perfectly justified reasons, the technical assistance for which PAHO has been asked or which it has suggested, has been provided through agreements or action projects aimed at meeting the most immediate needs of the countries, whose character has perhaps been too restricted, although collaboration was envisaged on broad lines aimed at solving the most pressing health problems affecting the Continent in general.

Despite this identification of the general fields of concern that merit priority, situations have arisen in which the particular agreements have overlapped in their objectives or have not been adequately coordinated. This has been due in large measure to the fact that, at the country level there has been insufficient appreciation of the need to plan health activities and requests for technical assistance, in a coordinated and integrated manner.

This situation has clearly been improving in recent years as is shown by the steps taken to formulate national health plans, which, at a further stage, are being integrated with the economic and social development plans. It must be acknowledged that PAHO has played a very important role in fostering this approach, as a result of the guidelines suggested by its authorities which in recent years have successfully promoted the idea of planning.

In order to ensure that these aims will be achieved, the Government of Chile believes that it would be advisable to study ways of formulating technical assistance agreements and of consolidating present and future agreements into instruments with broad objectives that coincide with the main items in the national health plans. These more general agreements would be valid for longer periods and, within their framework and according to the circumstances, concrete and particular plans of operation would be

developed which, because they were integrated into more general agreements, would from the very outset show more coordination as regards their objectives, and the way in which they were to be achieved.

In the opinion of the Government of Chile this arrangement would also make for more flexibility in what might be called the administrative processing of the agreements. It would also permit greater facility in redistributing resources -if local circumstances were to arise which would limit the possibility of success of any of the particular plans of operations, or to handle any urgent need, the handling of which under present procedures takes time.

The Government of Chile is aware that what it proposes may mean modifications affecting the financial and administrative management of the resources of PAHO (and perhaps have repercussions for WHO). However, in view of the guidelines and organization developed by the authorities of PAHO in recent years, such modifications appear to be perfectly feasible.

The Government of Chile therefore wishes to propose to the XVII Conference the following

RESOLUTION:

To reiterate to the Member Governments the recommendations to plan health activities in a coordinated manner within the framework of development plans both as regards their technical planning aspects and their administrative structural aspects, including in this coordinated planning requests for technical assistance in the health field that are submitted to international agencies and other organizations and institutions which give it;

To ask the Director of the Bureau to assist the Member Governments, by such measures as he deems appropriate, in consolidating present and future agreements in the light of the requirements of national health plans;

To request the Director of the Bureau, when making these studies, to consider procedures that would make periods for the formulation of general agreements and particular plans of operation more flexible;

To also request the Director, as a means of ensuring the success of the above mentioned proposal that a way be found under decentralization regulations, to give more power of decision to the Zone Representatives so that they can promptly adapt the terms of the agreements and plans when the circumstances of the countries make it advisable;

To recommend that, the above mentioned ideas be presented in such form as is deemed appropriate to the other agencies of the United Nations which take part in technical assistance to health activities.