



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



**43<sup>rd</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL**  
**53<sup>rd</sup> SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

*Washington, D.C., USA, 24-28 September 2001*

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***RESOLUTION***

***CD43.R13***

**INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS**

***THE 43<sup>rd</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,***

Recalling resolutions WHA48.7 on the International Health Regulations and CD41.R14 on emerging and reemerging infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance;

Having seen the progress report on the revision of the International Health Regulations (Document CD43/11) and recognizing the need to adjust the current version of the International Health Regulations so that it takes into account the increased volume of international travel and trade and current trends in the epidemiology of communicable diseases, including emerging disease threats;

Considering the need to protect public health and control disease and, at the same time, avoid unnecessary measures that could have unanticipated social or economic consequences; and

Recognizing that the opportunity to intervene with prevention and control measures is limited by the speed with which goods, food, and people are mobilized, and by the emergence of pathogens resistant to the available antimicrobials,

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***RESOLVES:***

1. To urge the Member States to:
  - (a) participate actively in the process of revising the International Health Regulations, both nationally and in the regional integration systems' agenda;
  - (b) review the criteria to define a public health event of potential international importance as proposed for the revised International Health Regulations.
2. To request that the Director:
  - (a) provide technical cooperation to support countries in their efforts to test the implications of the proposed revision of the International Health Regulations;
  - (b) promote the organization of subregional meetings among partners with expertise in the area of epidemic alert response, and the health risks associated with the international circulation of products of poor quality containing possible chemical, physical, and biological contaminants in order to facilitate the exchange of evidence gathered on the testing of specific components of the revised International Health Regulations.
  - (c) organize the participation of the Region of the Americas in meetings convened by WHO to address matters related to the revision of the International Health Regulations.

*(Eighth meeting, 27 September 2001)*