



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



# **16th DIRECTING COUNCIL**

17th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., September 27 – 8 October 1965*

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## ***RESOLUTION***

### ***CD16.R35***

#### **AIR AND WATER POLLUTION IN LATIN AMERICA**

*THE 16<sup>th</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having considered the report of the Director on the growing significance of air and water pollution problems (Document CD16/17);

Considering that increasing demographic expansion is causing unprecedented urban and industrial concentrations that create a large volume of waste discharges;

Bearing in mind that uncontrolled waste discharges from urban centers and industrial installations pollute air and water resources, and that, if excessive, such pollution is detrimental to the health and well-being of people, restricts industrial expansion, and limits water and land use;

Recognizing that problems of air and water pollution are further complicated by accelerating technological changes affecting the production and use of industrial products and the type and volume of polluting wastes;

Noting with satisfaction that the report emphasizes the importance and urgency of industrial development and the need for Governments to be realistic and practical in the development and application of regulatory measures and to give due consideration to the capacity of air and water resources to assimilate, with safety, reasonable volumes of polluting materials; and

Noting the grave implications of excessive and uncontrolled air and water pollution for the health and the social and economic well-being of people, and that Governments must take prompt action to analyze problem areas and, where necessary, apply the proper measures to remedy the situation,

*RESOLVES*

1.To endorse the courses of action proposed in the report [of the Director] (Document CD16/17), in order to provide the Governments that request it with all the technical assistance they need on all aspects for air and water pollution, including appropriate measures, as required, for monitoring trends in air and water pollution, for appraising special problems, and for developing practical control methods.

2.To recommend to the Governments that, through their ministries of health, they give proper attention to problems of air and water pollution and, where appropriate, expand their technical staff and related facilities to provide for practical and effective regulatory controls to prevent excessive pollution of air and water resources, taking into account the economic importance of industrial and agricultural development.

3.To urge the Director to make studies on the cost of control practices, and to use the resources of the Organization to determine more feasible and practical methods of water treatment that will be within the economic and operational reach of the people to be protected and within the financial and administrative capacity of the Governments concerned.

4.To request the Director to give appropriate attention to the expanding problems of air and water pollution in the Organization's programs of assistance in the fields of education, training, and research, and to provide for the collection and dissemination to Governments of such scientific information as might be helpful on the health and economic implications of air and water pollution and on remedial practices.

*Sept.-Oct. 1965 OD 66, 85*