



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



20th DIRECTING COUNCIL
23rd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 27 September – 8 October 1971

RESOLUTION

CD20.R28

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTES

THE 20th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having examined the report submitted by the Director on traffic accidents (Document CD20/10, Rev. 1);1

Considering that, as is shown by the data presented, this subject constitutes a public health problem whose extent and epidemiology are not accurately known, particularly in Latin America;

Recognizing the need to stimulate the interest of Governments in this problem; and

Considering the offer made by the Government of the United States of America for the financing of an international seminar or a working party of experts to discuss the role of drinking alcohol in the causation of traffic accidents and to develop preventive measures,

RESOLVES

1. To express its satisfaction with the presentation of the subject.
2. To suggest to the Director that the Organization:
 - a) Continue and intensify its collaboration with national, intergovernmental, and nongovernmental organizations working in this field and promote coordination between them.
 - b) Furnish advice to countries:

- i) On the study and investigation of the epidemiology of factors involved in the causation of traffic accidents.
 - ii) On the establishment of uniform standards of classification and reporting.
 - iii) On the adoption of adequate control measures.
 - iv) On the preparation of specialized personnel.
3. To recommend to Governments:
- a) That they give special attention to the epidemiological study of the factors governing the causation, extent, gravity, and nature of traffic accidents, taking into account local characteristics.
 - b) That they encourage the competent national and local organizations:
 - i) To develop coordinated programs for the prevention of traffic accidents.
 - ii) To organize services to provide immediate effective medical care for the victims.
 - iii) To promote extensive courses of instruction in the driving of motor vehicles.
 - iv) To improve the procedures for the granting of driver permits and expand programs for the traffic safety education of the public, with special attention to schoolchildren and drivers.
 - c) That they review their legislation in relation to factors concerning the individual, the vehicle, and the highway.
 - d) That they appropriate the necessary funds to finance the above-mentioned activities.
4. To express its pleasure with and to accept the offer made by the United States of America, and to request the Director to take the necessary steps to plan and organize an international seminar or a working party of experts for the purpose of studying the factors of drinking alcohol that enter into play in traffic accidents and measures for their prevention.

Sept.–Oct. 1971 OD 111, 69