San Juan, Puerto Rico, 27 September-1 October 1999

RESOLUTION

CD41.R5

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF CHILDHOOD ILLNESS (IMCI)

THE 41ST DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen Document CD41/11 and its request to accelerate implementation of the strategy for integrated management of childhood illness (IMCI) in the Region of the Americas;

Taking into account that this strategy is considered the principal contribution for reducing mortality from infectious diseases in children under 5 years; and

Bearing in mind that universal access to the IMCI strategy by the population of the Region of the Americas, particularly the most vulnerable groups, will help to achieve the goal of preventing 100,000 deaths in children under 5 years by the year 2002,

RESOLVES

- 1. To recommend that the Member States:
- (a) adopt the IMCI strategy as the basic intervention for accelerating the reduction of infant mortality and achieving the goal of reducing the number of deaths in children under 5 years by 100,000 between 1999 and 2002;
- (b) explicitly include the IMCI strategy among the basic health interventions to which the entire population should have access through the network of health services and health personnel, including the public sector and social security;
- (c) draft national and subnational plans and goals aimed at securing progressive access by the entire population to the operational elements of the IMCI strategy through the health services and health workers, and in communities, and promote utilization of these services and personnel by families and communities;

- (d) take the necessary steps to guarantee economic support and mobilize all possible resources in support of effective implementation of the IMCI strategy;
- (e) introduce teaching of the IMCI strategy into the training of health workers, other professionals, auxiliaries, technical personnel, and community health agents who work with children under 5 years and can contribute to health promotion and disease prevention in the health services and the community.

2. To request the Director:

- (a) to increase efforts to obtain extrabudgetary financing for activities connected with the implementation of the IMCI strategy in the countries of the Region and to support the countries in their national and local implementation processes;
- (b) to promote execution of the necessary activities for adapting the IMCI strategy to the different epidemiological and operational realities of the countries, expanding its components and interventions to enhance its role in promoting the integrated management of childhood illness;
- (c) to invite other international multilateral, bilateral, and nongovernmental organizations to offer support for implementing the IMCI strategy at the regional, subregional, and country level.

(Fourth meeting, 28 September 1999)