



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **42nd DIRECTING COUNCIL**

52nd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., 25-29 September 2000*

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CD42.R12***

### **CHILD HEALTH**

*THE 42nd DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having considered the report on child health (Document CD42/14); Recognizing the need to build a new, fuller concept of the importance of child health to a better future, based on the achievements of the past decade and the new knowledge and evidence contributed by various disciplines;

Taking into account that there are still unresolved issues related to children's' rights, equity in health, development opportunities, and solutions for basic health problems, as well as emerging issues affecting child health, yet aware of the importance of dealing with a broader public health agenda involving determinants and understanding that investment in child health is justified; and

Recognizing the moment as a critical one for the development of child health due to the global attention on the 10th anniversary evaluation of the World Summit for Children as well as the United Nations General Assembly special session planned for September 2001, when the agenda for children in the new millennium will be established,

#### ***RESOLVES***

1. To request the Member States to:

- (a) institute national processes to review policies and legislation vis-à-vis their conformity with children's' rights, distribution of resources to achieve child and family friendliness, and community and environmental contributions to integral child health and development possibilities;
- (b) maintain the topic of integral child health and development on the public agenda using, among other mechanisms, those available through the application of social communication methodologies, and joining in national and international efforts and networks promoting development in this area;
- (c) include in the health sector reform processes a provision for the reorganization of health systems and services so that they reflect the urgent need to prioritize and invest in integral child health and development;
- (d) contribute towards the improvement of child health through stimulating research activities, paying special attention to operationalizing integration at local levels, and developing monitoring and evaluation criteria.

2. To request the Director to:

- (a) promote the mobilization of resources to enable adequate investment and advocate in national and international forums that priority attention be given to integral child health activities;
- (b) support the development of a regional plan for action based on the framework suggested which would include multidisciplinary and multisectoral inputs and coordinated efforts with partner agencies;
- (c) stimulate the development of a network of interested parties for the identification, testing, and evaluation of indicators that would reflect both process and achievements in monitoring child health programs whose focus is on the integration of health promotion with preventative and therapeutic efforts, i.e., criteria for evaluating health, and not just its absence;
- (d) continue PAHO's leadership role in the Americas in child and adolescent health and nutrition within the various regional and global venues, including the United Nations Special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children, the Ibero-American Summits, and the Fifth Ministerial Meeting on Children and Social Policy in the Americas.

*(Final Report, CD42, 19-21)*