



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



33rd DIRECTING COUNCIL

40th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 26-30 September 1988

RESOLUTION

CD33.R15

DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF LOCAL HEALTH SYSTEMS

THE 33rd DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen Document CD33/14, "Development and Strengthening of Local Health Systems in the Transformation of National Health Systems," Resolution WHA41.341 of the Forty-first World Health Assembly, and the observations of the 101st Meeting of the Executive Committee;

Taking into account Resolution XXI of the XXII Pan American Sanitary Conference, which established the orientation and program priorities of PAHO for the quadrennium 1987–1990;

Recognizing the urgent need to accelerate the transformation of the national health systems in order to promote application of the primary health care strategy and to attain the goal of health for all by the year 2000;

Concerned about the constraints on the proper development of health care imposed by the present economic crisis and by limitations within the health sector itself:

Convinced that the challenge of improving the health of the neediest populations should be met, despite the crisis, with innovative measures for the structuring and administration of available resources;

Cognizant of the exercises already under way in most of the countries for the transformation of the national health systems based on the development of local health systems as part of national decentralization and deconcentration processes; and

Agreeing that it is at the local level that policies and strategies for social development and health care can be implemented on the basis of social participation, intersectoral action, coordination of financial sources, and integration of programs,

RESOLVES

1. To thank the Director for Document CD33/14, "Development and Strengthening of Local Health Systems in the Transformation of National Health Systems."

2. To urge Member Governments:

a) To continued and to strengthen their work of defining policies, strategies, programs, and activities for the transformation of national health systems through the development of local health systems;

b) To ensure coordinated participation in the strengthening of local health systems by all government institutions responsible for the delivery of services, especially the social security administrations, and the international cooperation agencies;

c) To promote, in accordance with their institutional realities, the notion of a program-level partnership among the public sector, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector;

d) To place special emphasis on the provision of resources and decentralization to strengthen the operating capacity of local health systems, and on specific programs for dealing with priority health problems;

e) To give special attention to the aspects cited in Section IV of Document CD33/14 as a response by the sector for the attainment of greater equity, efficiency, effectiveness, and participation;

f) To define and apply suitable indicators and processes for evaluating the development of local health systems and the progress made;

g) To promote research on health system services at the local level.

3. To request the Director:

a) To strengthen technical cooperation to the Member Countries so that resources will be mobilized for activities to transform national health systems and to support priority programs through the development of local health systems and, particularly, to develop the planning process and information systems, administration, community participation, the leadership of the sector, and personnel training;

- b) To encourage exchanges of experiences between countries and groups of countries as a form of technical cooperation among countries, and to disseminate among governments and local organizations the available information on advances in the development of local health systems and the transformation of national health systems;
- c) To promote the coordinated participation of all health-related agencies, including those providing services, those training human resources and pursuing research, and those for international cooperation;
- d) To disseminate to the governments and their ministries and agencies the information available on methodological aspects and advances in the development of local health systems and the transformation of national health systems;
- e) To support the monitoring of the evaluation of progress in the countries, and to include this topic in his annual reports during the present quadrennium (1987–1990).

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