



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



36th DIRECTING COUNCIL

43rd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 21-25 September 1992

RESOLUTION

CD36.R19

DEBT CONVERSION FOR HEALTH

THE 36th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Considering the continuing need to identify resources for the promotion of activities for the environment and health in the Region;

Taking into account the efforts being made by the Pan American Health Organization to stimulate investment in the environment and health through promotion of the Regional Plan for Investment in the Environment and Health; and

Noting the changes in commercial debt markets and the substantial international movement toward the forgiveness of certain bilateral debt, and the official statements of some member countries of the Paris Club that they would consider debt conversion proposals during renegotiation of bilateral loans through the Paris Club,

RESOLVES

1. To request the economic authorities in the creditor countries, when renegotiating the debt of the developing countries, to give priority consideration to the conversion of debt for resources to finance health, water and sanitation, and other environmental health programs.

2. To urge the economic authorities in the debtor countries to give priority to health, water and sanitation, and other environmental health projects whenever they carry out operations for the conversion of their external debt into resources for the financing of projects within their borders.

3. To request the Director:

a) To continue the Organization's efforts to help the Member Countries explore other alternatives for the financing of their health and environmental programs, not just through conversion of their commercial debt but also through renegotiation, restructuring, and forgiveness of their public debt;

b) To encourage the interest of the international financial agencies, especially the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, in supporting health projects through their debt conversion mechanisms.

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