



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



37th DIRECTING COUNCIL
45th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 27 September - 1 October 1993

RESOLUTION

CD37.R6

**ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) IN THE
AMERICAS**

THE 37th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen Document CD37/10 and Add. I and II on acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the Americas, and taking into account the recommendations of the Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Ibero-American Countries, as well as Resolution WHA46.371 of the World Health Assembly;

Aware of the growing threat posed by the AIDS epidemic, infection with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and the increase in sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs) for health and the social and economic development of the Member States; and

Taking note of the imperative need to mobilize all sectors of society in the campaign against HIV/AIDS/STDs, as well as the need to achieve the best possible coordination of preventive actions at the regional and country level.

RESOLVES

1. To call on the Member Governments to:

- a) Intensify national efforts to prevent HIV/AIDS/STDs and diminish the social and economic consequences thereof through the unification and coordination of all actions being carried out for this purpose at the country level;
 - b) Promote the establishment of a national program for preventing and combating AIDS, which will bring together resources from the various sectors of society under the leadership of the ministry of health, in coordination with the government agencies and nongovernmental organizations involved in the effort to combat HIV/AIDS/STDs;
 - c) Draw upon the expertise of all relevant United Nations system and Inter-American system organizations in establishing a well-conducted intersectoral program to combat HIV/AIDS/STDs at the country level;
 - d) Implement, with appropriate financial and technical support from PAHO, specific country programs and activities designed to reduce the incidence of HIV infection among women and newborns.
2. To support fully Resolution WHA46.37, adopted in May 1993, in which the Director-General of WHO is requested to study, in close consultation with all organizations and bodies concerned, the feasibility and practicability of establishing a joint and co-sponsored United Nations program on HIV/AIDS.
3. To recognize PAHO's scientific and technical leadership in the health field in the Region of the Americas.
4. To request the Director to:
- a) Assist Member Governments in their efforts to establish strong intersectoral coordinating mechanisms on HIV/AIDS/STDs at the country level;
 - b) Take the necessary steps to improve coordination in order to promote, bring together, and articulate the actions of the various agencies of the United Nations and the Inter-American systems in the Region of the Americas.

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