



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **37th DIRECTING COUNCIL**

45th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

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

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CD37.R13***

### **EXPANDED PROGRAM ON IMMUNIZATION**

*THE 37th DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having considered and reviewed the report of the Director on the Expanded Program on Immunization (Document CD37/16);

Noting with great satisfaction that more than two years have passed since detection of the last case of poliomyelitis (on 23 August 1991 in the district of Pichinaki, department of Junín, Peru); that there has been tremendous progress made toward securing the control and definitive elimination of measles, as well as notable achievements in the control of neonatal tetanus; and that in most of the countries the levels of vaccination coverage have been maintained or increased;

Recognizing that the consolidation of these achievements requires further commitment on the part of all the governments and agencies that are collaborating with the Program, as well as the strengthening of ties between the public and private sectors; and

Noting with concern that in Alberta, Canada, an importation of wild poliovirus from the Netherlands has been detected,

#### ***RESOLVES***

1. To congratulate all the health workers of the Region for their dedication and their outstanding achievements toward securing control of diseases preventable by vaccination.

2. To commend the health authorities of Canada for their prompt detection and apparent containment of the spread of wild poliovirus following its importation from the Netherlands, as well as the authorities of other countries that acted swiftly to investigate and vaccinate all communities potentially at risk.
3. To urge all the Member Governments to intensify their surveillance among groups potentially at risk for transmission of poliovirus associated with the aforesaid or future importations.
4. To recommend to all the Member Governments that they establish national certification commissions to collect and analyze the data on the eradication of poliomyelitis, which are then to be reviewed by the international commission.
5. To call on all the Member Governments to increase their support for activities aimed at achieving control and the definitive elimination of measles and at achieving increased control of neonatal tetanus; this will require allocation of resources in the national budgets to support vaccination programs, including national campaigns, expansion of national surveillance systems, and support for diagnostic laboratories.
6. To thank all the collaborating governmental and nongovernmental agencies, bilateral as well as multilateral, for their ongoing support, and to call on them to maintain and increase this support.
7. To request the Director to:
  - a) Continue his efforts to mobilize additional resources for the EPI and its disease control and elimination initiatives;
  - b) Establish a special fund for the control and elimination of measles.

*Sept.–Oct. 1993 OD 260, 128*