



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **40th DIRECTING COUNCIL**

49th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., 22 - 26 September 1997*

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CD40.R8***

### **ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME**

*THE 40th DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having seen the report on acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the Americas (Document CD40/17 and Add. I);

Considering that sexually transmitted diseases increase the risk of transmission of HIV, and that HIV/AIDS is basically a sexually transmitted disease and an emerging epidemic that is affecting adolescents and young adults in the Region; and

Taking into account the growing number of people living with HIV/AIDS that will require appropriate, cost-effective, and humane medical care and social services,

#### ***RESOLVES***

1. To endorse the strategies and recommendations proposed in the aforementioned document, with a view to strengthening the managerial capacity of the national programs, improving epidemiological surveillance, identifying optimal prevention practices, validating appropriate models for the care of persons with HIV/AIDS, and stepping up specific activities for the control of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in the Region.

2. To urge the Member States, working with PAHO and UNAIDS, to:

- (a) actively take the lead in coordinating national efforts and to promote the broad intersectoral response for the prevention of HIV/AIDS advocated by PAHO/WHO and UNAIDS;
- (b) strengthen health sector activities in STD control, focusing specifically on epidemiological surveillance and care of the most common STDs with the greatest impact on women and adolescents;
- (c) redouble efforts to mobilize resources at the national level and encourage horizontal cooperation among countries in order to strengthen the technical capabilities of the national programs for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and STDs at the subregional level.

3. To request the Director to:

- (a) maintain the Region's technical and scientific capabilities and increase PAHO interprogram collaboration for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and STDs, and support for UNAIDS;
- (b) inform the Governing Bodies, annually until otherwise decided, of the scientific, epidemiological, political, and programming changes that require their attention;
- (c) support the countries' efforts to make the new treatments more accessible to all people living with HIV/AIDS in the Americas;
- (d) collaborate with the countries to make the mass communication efforts of the countries to control the spread of HIV/AIDS increasingly effective.

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