



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



# 16th DIRECTING COUNCIL

17th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., September 27 – 8 October 1965*

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## ***RESOLUTION***

### ***CD16.R30***

## **STATUS OF SMALLPOX ERADICATION IN THE AMERICAS**

*THE 16<sup>th</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having considered the report of the Director on the status of the smallpox eradication program in the Americas (Document CD16/29); 1

Bearing in mind the resolutions of the XIII, XIV, XV, and XVI Pan American Sanitary Conferences on the eradication of smallpox, as well as its own previous resolutions, especially Resolution XLI approved at the XV Meeting;

Considering that smallpox is an eradicable disease and that effective techniques and means are available for that purpose; and

Bearing in mind Resolution WHA18.38 of the Eighteenth World Health Assembly, which declares the world-wide eradication of smallpox to be one of the major objectives of WHO,

### ***RESOLVES***

- 1.To declare smallpox eradication in the Americas to be one of the major objectives of the Pan American Health Organization.
- 2.To reiterate and confirm the previous resolutions of the Governing Bodies of the Organization to the effect that smallpox must be eradicated from the Hemisphere as soon as possible.

3.To remind the Governments that the organization and execution of national smallpox vaccination programs is a specific obligation incumbent upon them.

4.To recommend to the Governments that, side by side with intensive vaccination programs, they organize activities aimed at maintaining a high level of immunity among the population, and that in countries where the eradication campaign has been completed but where the corresponding maintenance operations have not yet been initiated, they begin them as soon as possible.

5.To urge the Governments of countries in which there is no smallpox, and in which the level of immunity of the general population is low, to institute, by such means as they deem appropriate, a program for [rapidly] increasing the vaccinated proportion of the population.

6.To urge the Governments to intensify their epidemiological surveillance services for the early detection and investigation of suspected cases of smallpox and for the prevention of the spread of the disease, and to recommend that to that end the Governments take special measures for the clinical, laboratory, and epidemiological confirmation of suspected cases of smallpox occurring in their territories.

7.To request the Director of the Bureau to prepare an estimate of the financial and other resources that the countries and the Organization require for the eradication of smallpox and to submit that estimate to the 54th Meeting of the Executive Committee and the XVII Pan American Sanitary Conference.

8.To emphasize the need for the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to continue to coordinate the national smallpox vaccination campaigns and to provide those campaigns with the help they need, including technical assistance in planning, operation, research, and personnel training, as well as vaccine, supplies and equipment, and certain local costs, whenever necessary.

9.To urge the Director of the Bureau to assist the Governments in obtaining financial and material resources for their national programs.

10.To urge the Governments that are in a position to do so to supply the national programs of other countries of the Continent that need them not only with smallpox vaccine but also with financial and material resources and specialist services, either directly or through the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

11.To express its thanks to the countries of the Continent that have so generously donated smallpox vaccine to countries that need it and/or do not produce enough of it.

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