



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



16th DIRECTING COUNCIL

17th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

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

RESOLUTION

CD16.R21

RESEARCH POLICY AND PROGRAM OF THE PAHO

THE 16th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having considered the report of the Director on the research policy and program of PAHO (Document CD16/20), 1 the report of the Fourth Meeting of the PAHO Advisory Committee on Medical Research (Document CD16/20, Annex 1), and the Current PAHO Collaborative Research Program (Sources of Financing) (Document CD16/20, Annex II);

Noting the progress made in the Inter-American Investigation of Mortality; in studies on Chagas' disease, epidemic typhus, endemic goiter, nutritional anemias, malaria, mosquito resistance to insecticides, and the radiation and isotopes projects; and in the research activities of the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP), the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, and the Pan American Zoonoses Center;

Noting that new work includes major studies in biomedical research policy for the Region, public health research in Argentina, population dynamics and medical demography, faculty and research training centers, environmental determinants of community well-being, malnutrition in mental development, deprivation in psychobiological development, and, as part of a broad effort to improve medical library resources of the Region, a regional medical library center;

Recalling that the entire program is following the policy guidelines of Resolution XXVI of the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference;

Noting with gratitude that the Advisory Committee on Medical Research continues its dedicated interest in the research program of PAHO, providing timely and informed advice on specific projects and on the program as a whole, including the priorities to be devoted to biomedical, biosocial, and bio-sanitary research and to major regional, community, and individual health problems; and

Noting with appreciation the increase in both the amount and the sources of voluntary and public support and the administrative efficiency of the PAHO research planning and coordination, as exemplified by the fact that although there has been a marked expansion in the program since the XVI Pan American Sanitary Conference, there has been no increase in the administrative budget,

RESOLVES

1. To commend the Director, the Advisory Committee on Medical Research, and the staff for the breadth, balance, and vitality of the research program.

2. To record its satisfaction with the fact that, in the field of research and training in population dynamics, as in other subject fields, PAHO and WHO are collaborating in developing a coordinated program for the Americas (under Resolution XXXI of the XV Meeting of the Directing Council and Resolution WHA18.49 of the Eighteenth World Health Assembly) aimed at achieving a harmonious integration of health, population growth, and community development components of national efforts to raise the standard of living of populations throughout the Region.

3. To endorse the emerging emphasis on (a) programs and research studies for measuring present and future requirements in the Americas [for] physicians and other professional, paramedical, and auxiliary personnel; and (b) the program for Pan American Faculty and Research Training Centers, which are intended to assist in meeting the severe shortage of qualified teachers and researchers in various medical sciences and in related professions, and of paramedical and auxiliary personnel in the fields of industrial, occupational, and environmental health.

4. To note with satisfaction the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee on Medical Research to the Director on the subject of a biomedical research policy for the Region, which emphasize that universities should foster "a climate of opinion that recognizes that scientific research is part of the cultural life of the community" and that the ministries of health, like the ministries of education, should promote and support research and advanced educational programs calculated to assist in solving health and community development problems.

5.To reaffirm paragraph 5 of Resolution XXXI of the XV Meeting of the Directing Council (1964); to urge individual Governments, insofar as their resources permit, to consider the possibility of establishing a permanent national fund for research on public health problems; and to commend [the Government of] Argentina for its initiative in this respect.

6.To request the Director of the Bureau to provide the Governments that request it with technical assistance in the organization of national scientific and technical research councils.

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