



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



28th DIRECTING COUNCIL

33rd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 21 September – 1 October 1981

RESOLUTION

CD28.R39

TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS: SANITARY CONTROL OF FOOD

THE 28th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having examined the Report (Document CD28/DT/3, Rev. 1) of the Technical Discussions on the "Sanitary Control of Food" held during the Meeting, which had before it Document CD28/DT/1;

Bearing in mind the importance of safe, wholesome food in health care and the need to make this food more available to all sectors of the population;

Noting the constant losses of food due to contamination and the consequent morbidity and the mortality from food-borne illnesses;

Recognizing the impact of the food supply system on health care and considering the national and international elements of that system; and

Convinced of the need for a coherent national food protection policy to address these concerns, and of a comprehensive food law to enforce that policy,

RESOLVES

1. To take note of the Report of the Technical Discussions (Document CD28/DT/3, Rev. 1) and to express its satisfaction with it.
2. To recommend that the Member Governments:

- a) Develop and maintain coherent national food protection policies with corresponding legislation, giving special attention to preventive aspects;
- b) Support the development of institutions and the training and continuing education of inspectors and other specialized personnel at all levels;
- c) Initiate educational programs on all aspects of food safety, especially those at the community level, emphasizing participation of women and schoolchildren;
- d) Explore new sources and mechanisms for the internal and external financing of national food protection programs through specialized international lending agencies, and by incorporating the programs into the financial planning process;
- e) Strengthen the health sector's participation in the management and surveillance of the production, storage, distribution, manufacture, and marketing phases of the food supply system.

3. To request the Director to:

- a) Continue, as a priority, to collaborate with Member Governments in improving the wholesomeness of food, which includes the formulation of national policies for food safety; optimization of cooperation and linkages with all agencies involved in food protection and trade; strengthening of food protection programs, and community participation in the sanitary handling of food with emphasis on primary health care for underserved populations;
- b) Distribute the Report of the Technical Discussions to Member Governments, national and international agencies, and other concerned parties;
- c) Take into consideration the Report of the Technical Discussions and this Resolution in the implementation of the regional strategies and Plan of Action on the subject.

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