



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



**26th DIRECTING COUNCIL**  
31st SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., 24 September – 5 October 1979*

---

***RESOLUTION***

***CD26.R22***

**TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS: STRATEGIES FOR EXTENDING AND  
IMPROVING POTABLE WATER SUPPLY AND EXCRETAL  
DISPOSAL SERVICES**

*THE 26<sup>th</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having examined the report of the Technical Discussions on "Strategies for Extending and Improving Water Supply and Excreta Disposal Services during the Decade of the 1980s";<sup>1</sup>

Considering the progress made in the 1960s and 1970s, as well as the present rate of rural and urban development of water supply and waste water and excreta disposal in the Region; and

Aware of the importance of the targets proposed by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (1976) and the United Nations Water Conference (1977) to provide water supply and sanitation services to as many people as possible during the decade 1981–1990, particularly to the underserved rural and urban populations,

***RESOLVES***

1. To express its satisfaction with the manner in which the Technical Discussions were conducted and to thank the moderators, the rapporteurs, and the consultants for their valuable contributions to the Discussions.

2. To urge Member Governments:

a) to include the extension of water supplies and sanitation services, particularly in the underserved rural and urban areas, among the priority programs for national development, and to promote intersectoral collaboration with other sector developments;

b) to give high priority to active community participation in decision-making, implementation, and operation and maintenance of water supply and sanitation projects, particularly in rural areas;

c) to adopt appropriate technologies compatible with their social, cultural, and economic conditions and explore the feasibility of promoting the local manufacture of supplies and equipment for water supply and sanitation facilities;

d) to support and seek additional funds for institutional development and the training and continuing education of health personnel at all levels in order to improve the national absorptive capacity to utilize the funds to be invested; and

e) to explore new sources of financing for program development to supplement traditional mechanisms and external loans.

3. To request the Director:

a) to continue giving high priority to cooperating with Member Governments in strengthening their urban and rural water supply and sewerage programs including: i) the development of national, regional, and local strategies as well as institutions and low-cost simplified technology; ii) the full utilization of the resources of the Organization, particularly those at the Pan American Center for Sanitary Engineering and Environmental Sciences (CEPIS), for the training of personnel at all levels and the dissemination to Governments of information on the availability of such activities; iii) the establishment of systems for the exchange of information; iv) the identification and preparation of project proposals; and v) the seeking of extrabudgetary resources to further the collaboration with Governments in implementing their programs; and

b) to distribute widely the report of the Technical Discussions and the excellent background material, particularly to those agencies and groups outside the health field that are also concerned with furthering the objectives of the decade.

*Sept.–Oct. 1979 OD 167, 69*