

*executive committee of
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



*working party of
the regional committee*

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



84th Meeting
Washington, D.C.
June 1980

Provisional Agenda Item 5

CE84/20 (Eng.)

2 May 1980

ORIGINAL: SPANISH

REGIONAL STRATEGIES OF HEALTH FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000

The report on the work done to implement Resolution XIX of the 82nd Meeting of the Executive Committee and Resolution XXV of the XXVI Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO is submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. Both resolutions relate to an evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas and to the formulation of national and regional strategies for attaining health for all by the year 2000.

Because of the importance of the undertaking and its repercussions on the present and future responsibilities of the Pan American Health Organization, on the programs of the Governments, and also for the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, it is considered necessary to report on the work done and in progress, with emphasis on the commitments of both the Member Governments and the Bureau for the immediate future.

As decided in Resolution XIX, a Plan of Work has been formulated which ties the aforementioned activities into a single process.

The proposed Plan was examined and discussed in the special meeting of the Subcommittee on Long-Term Planning and Programming of the Executive Committee, consisting of Representatives of Canada and Guatemala and of the Bureau's Headquarters Program Committee. In this joint meeting in July 1979, suggestions were made for adjustment of the Plan, which comprised four main components:

1. An evaluation of the work done by the countries since 1971 under the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas, to be made by the Governments in the second half of 1979 so that in the first half of 1980 the Secretariat could correlate, on the regional level, the information supplied by the countries on their national evaluations.

2. As the national evaluation proceeded, the health authorities of each country would analyze the strategies applied during the seventies in that country. It was expected that each Member Government would use these data to draw up its national strategies for the next two decades in the light of the commitments assumed by them for the goal of "Health for All by the Year 2000." This work was to be done between September 1979 and January 1980.

3. The Secretariat would process the information presented by the Governments on the national strategies applied and those formulated for attaining the goal of the year 2000. A regional profile based on the characteristics of those strategies would then be traced, in which countries having similar priorities and strategies would be grouped together.

4. This document and the information on the evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan and the new national strategies would constitute the terms of reference for Member Governments in formulating their regional strategy proposals for discussion in the XXVII Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO in September/October 1980.

The process began with a stage of orientation for national and PASB staff in August and September 1979 on approaches and proposed procedures. A total of 40 high-level national officials and 48 PASB staff members were organized into six subregional working groups, to exchange information and experiences of the countries in evaluating the Ten-Year Health Plan, and in formulating national strategies. In addition, information was provided on the process, and possible approaches and the procedures proposed for carrying out the exercise were examined.

As an aid to the tasks described in Resolution XIX, the Bureau supplied to the health authorities the following reference material:

- i) Evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas. Forms and Guidelines; and
- ii) The document "Global Strategies for the Attainment of Health for All by the Year 2000. Implications for the Countries of the Americas: Guidelines for the Analysis and Formulation of National and Regional Strategies."

The Member Governments initiated forthwith their national processes for implementing the approved Plan, and in the first week of October 1979 reported to the XXVI Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO on the measures taken, some countries advising that they had established special groups for the purpose. They also indicated that

they had started to set their priorities and analyze the strategies they had followed during the seventies. Other Governments reported that they had started articulating the health sector with other development sectors.

As a result of the discussion of the subject, the Directing Council adopted Resolution XXV requesting the Member Governments to set in motion the evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas and the formulation of their national strategies, in accordance with the approved Plan.

Various measures have been taken to comply with this resolution. In addition to the reference material and technical cooperation provided by the Bureau, the experience acquired by some countries is being put to use for the benefit of others. National officials with experience in the evaluation process and in the formulation of strategies are being employed in other countries with PAHO support.

As of 1 May 1980, 18 Governments had completed their national analyses of the gains made in the framework of the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas. Thirteen countries had furnished information on their adopted national strategies. In addition, 6 Governments have offered to supply the requisite information on the Ten-Year Health Plan and on the design of their national strategies during May this year. The other Member Governments are engaged in the process, and it is hoped that their information can be received during June for incorporation into the final document.

Using the material on hand and following the approved Plan of Work, the Secretariat has begun the analyses toward formulation of the previously mentioned regional profile proposals. This is the basic component of the summary document to be considered by the Subcommittee on Long-Term Planning and Programming of the Executive Committee. The document is expected to consist of two major parts:

The first part will explain developments in the health sector during the decade 1971-1980 and contain a summary on socioeconomic and demographic trends and an analysis of the development of the situation in health and services, intersectoral articulation, financing for the sector, and international cooperation.

The second part will deal with the strategies for attaining the goal for health of the year 2000 and present a forecast of the probable socioeconomic setting in the coming decades, a summary and analysis of

national priorities and strategies and, primarily, the preliminary guidelines for regional priorities and strategies and their implications for the Governments and the Organization. Relevant information will also be supplied on the Water Supply and Sanitation Decade and on the Expanded Program on Immunization.

Appended to this document will be evaluation tables on the Ten-Year Health Plan and the information received from the Governments on their national strategies.

This material will itself constitute a working document for the health authorities in formulating their regional priority and strategy proposals in the light of their own situations.

The process will culminate with the consideration and adoption by the XXVII Meeting of the Directing Council of the regional strategies for implementation of the Organization's health policy in the next two decades.

In the light of the regional strategies which the Member Governments will help determine, based on the adopted health strategies, and in the context of national socioeconomic development, it is hoped that each Government will draw up or adjust its national medium- and short-term health plans needed to translate the aforementioned strategies into practical action.

In consequence, the Bureau will have to adjust its technical cooperation programs to the requirements that emerge in the regional strategies and national plans.