



directing council

PAN AMERICAN
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ORGANIZATION

XXII Meeting

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WORLD
HEALTH
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XXV Meeting



Provisional Agenda Item 18

CD22/3 (Eng.)

28 August 1973

ORIGINAL: SPANISH

RESOLUTIONS OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY OF INTEREST TO THE
REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The Director General of the World Health Organization has requested us to bring to the attention of the Regional Committee those resolutions approved by the Twenty-sixth World Health Assembly of interest to it. Annexed are the following resolutions:

- WHA26.35 Organizational Study on Methods of Promoting
 the Development of Basic Health Services
- WHA26.49 Coordination within the United Nations System:
 General Matters
- WHA26.58 WHO's Human Health and Environment Programme

You will note minor editorial changes in the titles of resolutions WHA26.49 and WHA26.58.

Annexes

TWENTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA26.35

22 May 1973

ORGANIZATIONAL STUDY ON METHODS OF PROMOTING THE
DEVELOPMENT OF BASIC HEALTH SERVICES

The Twenty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Executive Board on its organizational study on methods of promoting the development of basic health services;

Recalling resolutions WHA23.49, WHA23.61, WHA25.17 and EB51.R41 and expressing its belief that the principles and recommendations therein need to be further implemented within the programme of the Organization;

Reiterating its strong conviction that each Member State should develop a health service that is both accessible and acceptable to the total population, suited to its needs and to the socio-economic conditions of the country, and at the level of health technology considered necessary to meet the problems of that country at a given time;

Recognizing that the development of health services should be given high priority in the World Health Organizations' activities in the next decade,

1. CONGRATULATES the Executive Board for its study on methods of promoting the development of basic health services and notes with appreciation its conclusions and recommendations;
2. INVITES the attention of the Member States to the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the study;
3. RECOMMENDS to the Director-General that the Organization should
 - (1) concentrate upon specific programmes that will assist countries in developing their health care systems for their entire populations, special emphasis being placed on meeting the needs of those populations which have clearly insufficient health services;
 - (2) improve its capability for assisting national administrations to analyse their health delivery systems through organized research projects with the goal of increasing their efficiency and effectiveness;
 - (3) so design its programmes as to encourage Member States to develop a strong national will to undertake intensive action to deal with their long-term health care problems as well as their immediate requirements in a form designed for orderly development of health services, WHO resources being made available to, and concentrated on, such Member States as have this will and request assistance;

(4) further develop management methods suited to health service needs and assist countries in developing a national capability of applying these methods;

(5) encourage and participate in gathering and co-ordinating local, national, international and bilateral resources for the furthering of national health service goals;

4. REQUESTS the Director-General to report to the Executive Board on a comprehensive long-term research programme with systems of health care organization on local country-wide levels, as requested by WHA25.17, as well as on the steps to be taken on the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the study and their impact on future programmes of the Organization;

5. REQUESTS the Executive Board to submit periodically to future World Health Assemblies the results of their regular review of this area.

Fifteenth plenary meeting, 22 May 1973
A26/VR/15

TWENTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA26.49

22 May 1973

CO-ORDINATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM:
GENERAL MATTERS

The Twenty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the Director-General's report on "Co-ordination with the United Nations System" and having taken note of resolution EB51.R46;

Recalling resolutions EB49.R45, WHA24.51, WHA25.31 and WHA25.32;

Noting the relevant resolutions of ECOSOC and the General Assembly, as well as the decisions of the Governing Council of the UNDP and the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund, which have been brought to its attention by the Director-General,

1. EXPRESSES its satisfaction with the steps which the Director-General is taking to respond to these various resolutions in conformity with the Organization's policies and programmes;
2. NOTES the steps which the Director-General is taking with respect to the resolutions of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and on apartheid, and welcomes the information provided on the actions taken since the consideration of this matter by the Twenty-fifth World Health Assembly¹ and the Executive Board at its fifty-first session;
3. REQUESTS the Director-General to continue his close collaboration with UNDP, UNICEF and other programmes providing support to health activities, and, in the light of General Assembly resolutions 2975 (XXVII), to present periodically to the Executive Board reviews of activities assisted by UNDP and of the participation of the Organization in the planning and implementation of country programmes;
4. CONGRATULATES the World Food Programme on its tenth anniversary, records its appreciation to WFP for the assistance it has provided over the years to a large number of projects directed to the promotion of health and expresses the hope that the co-operation established between the World Health Organization and the World Food Programme will continue;
5. NOTES with satisfaction the increasing assistance given by the Organization to governments to enable them to further develop their health infrastructure for the provision of family planning care within maternal and child health and other health services and urges the Organization to intensify its leadership role in the medical and health aspects of family health, in collaboration with UNICEF and UNFPA as well as with other appropriate organizations within and outside the UN system;

¹ Resolution WHA25.32, Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Vol. I, 1948-1972, p. 531.

6. CONCURS with the steps being taken by WHO in the preparations for the World Population Conference and World Population Year and expresses the hope that ministries of health will participate actively to reflect the important role of health programmes and research in these undertakings.

Fifteenth plenary meeting, 22 May 1973
A26/VR/15

TWENTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA26.58

23 May 1973

WHO'S PROGRAMME FOR HUMAN HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

The Twenty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolutions WHA24.47 and WHA25.58;

Noting the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/2997 (XXVII)

Considering that WHO, which by virtue of its Constitution is the specialized agency concerned with health, should make a substantial contribution to the coordinated environment programme of the United Nations system by assuming leadership in the health aspects of the programme and by assisting governments in

- (a) the improvement of environmental quality through the provision of adequate and safe water supply and wastes disposal facilities,
- (b) the monitoring of pollutants harmful to health in air, water, food, soil and the working environment,
- (c) the development of criteria and guides or primary standards for the protection of man's health from harmful environmental influences, and
- (d) the promotion and coordination of appropriate research;

Drawing attention to the continued existence of biological pollution, particularly in some developing countries, as a result of inadequate environmental sanitation and community water supply facilities;

Renewing its invitation to governments and other bodies, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme, to provide additional resources which would enable WHO to extend its environmental health programme, as described in the Director-General's report,¹

Emphasizing that the solution of environmental health problems depends on an interdisciplinary approach and coordination between many programmes,

1. THANKS the Director-General for his report and endorses the action taken to reinforce and implement the Organization's long-term programme in environmental health in accordance with resolutions WHA24.47 and WHA25.58 and the recommendations made by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment;

2. RECOMMENDS that governments:

- (1) provide adequate resources and infrastructures for national environmental health programmes;

¹ Document A26/11.

(2) participate in the WHO long-term programme in environmental health, particularly in the formulation of environmental health criteria by contributing reviews on national research related to the health effects of environmental pollution and other environmental agents;

(3) take an active part in WHO programmes on the monitoring of levels and trends and the health effects of environmental factors in air, water, food, soil and the working environment; and

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to accord high priority in the programme of the Organization to the implementation of the long-term programme in environmental health, emphasizing

(a) the assessment of the effects of environmental conditions on health,

(b) basic sanitation, with particular stress on safe water supplies, and other methods of environmental control,

(c) the development of systems for the monitoring of pollutants and other environmental factors that may be harmful to health in air, water, food, soil and the working environment,

(d) the early identification of health hazards and prevention of their effects;

(2) to provide assistance to Member States in assessing environmental health conditions, in the planning and implementation of environmental control programmes, and in obtaining suitable technology;

(3) to study and develop a coordinated programme for the assessment of the effects on man of biological, chemical and physical agents in the environment, including new and potentially hazardous substances used in the home, in industrial production and in agriculture, to prepare new WHO criteria documents on the environmental health effects of such agents, and to bring the existing criteria documents regularly up to date;

(4) to promote, strengthen and coordinate research on the health effects of environmental pollutants and other environmental factors, particularly the combined and long-term effects, and to develop protocols for experimental and epidemiological studies, a uniform terminology and agreed definitions, in collaboration with national institutions and interested agencies;

(5) to continue to collaborate with other international agencies, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme;

(6) to accept and make full use of resources, not only from the regular budget of the Organization but also from the United Nations Environment Fund and from voluntary contributions, in accordance with paragraph 3(d) of resolution WHA24.47; and

(7) to report to the Twenty-seventh World Health Assembly on progress achieved in the implementation of the Organization's long-term programme in environmental health, including collaboration with and within the United Nations Environment Programme.