



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



50th DIRECTING COUNCIL

62nd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

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RESOLUTION

CD50.R17

STRATEGY AND PLAN OF ACTION FOR CHAGAS DISEASE PREVENTION, CONTROL, AND CARE

THE 50th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having reviewed Document CD50/16, *Strategy and Plan of Action for Chagas Disease Prevention, Control, and Care*, and in view of:

- the existence of previous mandates and resolutions of the Pan American Health Organization, such as Resolution CD49.R19 of the 49th Directing Council (2009), *Elimination of Neglected Diseases and Other Poverty-related Infections*, and World Health Assembly Resolution WHA63.20 (2010), *Chagas Disease: control and elimination*;
- the need to complete work on the “unfinished agenda,” since the proportion of the population affected remains high among the poorest and most marginalized populations of the Americas, and the need to address health determinants in order to reduce the health, social, and economic burden of Chagas disease;
- the vast experience of the Region of the Americas in the implementation of strategies to eliminate communicable diseases and the progress made in reducing the burden of Chagas disease, for whose prevention and control there are efficacious and cost-effective public health interventions;

- the success achieved by the Member States through subregional initiatives for the prevention and control of Chagas disease, but aware of the need to expand existing activities,

RESOLVES:

1. To endorse the Strategy and approve the Plan of Action for Chagas Disease Prevention, Control, and Care.
2. To urge the Member States to:
 - (a) review national plans or establish new ones for the prevention, control, and optimization of access to medical care of Chagas disease, employing an integrated approach that addresses the social determinants of health and provides for interprogrammatic collaboration and intersectoral action;
 - (b) strengthen and emphasize the subregional initiatives for the prevention and control of Chagas disease, incorporating a medical care component for the people affected, in order to continue progress toward meeting the proposed objectives through technical cooperation among the countries;
 - (c) provide the necessary resources and implement the Strategy and Plan of Action for the Prevention, Control, and Care of Chagas Disease;
 - (d) redouble efforts to reach the established goal of eliminating vector-borne transmission of *T. cruzi* by 2015, in addition to fighting transmission via transfusion, placenta, organ transplants, and others;
 - (e) establish integrated strategies for prevention, diagnosis, medical care and treatment, and vector control, with broad community participation, so that the process helps to strengthen national health systems, including primary health care, surveillance and alert and response systems, with attention to factors related to gender and ethnicity;
 - (f) support research to obtain appropriate scientific evidence on the control, surveillance, diagnosis, and medical care of Chagas disease, in order to meet the goals of the present Strategy and Plan of Action, with emphasis on the development of affordable and early diagnostic tests, including a test for its cure, and safer medications, and explore and, where appropriate, promote a range of incentive schemes for research and development, including addressing, where appropriate, the de-linkage of the cost of research and development and the price of health products, for example, through the award of prizes.

3. To request the Director to:
- (a) support execution of the Strategy and Plan of Action for Chagas Disease Prevention, Control, and Care and provide the technical cooperation that the countries need to develop and execute national plans of action;
 - (b) continue advocating for the active mobilization of resources and encouraging close collaboration to forge partnerships that support the implementation of this resolution, as, for example, in the case of the trust fund designed to support the elimination of neglected diseases and other poverty-related infectious diseases mentioned in Resolution CD49.R19 (2009);
 - (c) promote the identification, development, and use of evidence-based interventions that are technically and scientifically sound;
 - (d) promote research and scientific development related to new or improved tools, strategies, technologies, and methods for the prevention and control of Chagas disease and its consequences;
 - (e) strengthen regional mechanisms to improve access to and the distribution of the etiologic treatment for Chagas disease, and promote new advances in this area to overcome barriers and problems in access to treatment;
 - (f) promote and strengthen technical cooperation among the countries, and form strategic partnerships to carry out activities designed to eliminate Chagas disease as a public health problem;
 - (g) provide support to improve primary health care services and the surveillance and evaluation of national plans of action.

(Ninth plenary, 1 October 2010)