



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## 152nd SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 17-21 June 2013

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CE152.R4 (Eng.)  
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

### **RESOLUTION**

#### **CE152.R4**

#### **SOCIAL PROTECTION IN HEALTH**

##### ***THE 152nd SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,***

Having reviewed the concept paper *Social Protection in Health* (Document CE152/12, Rev. 1),

##### **RESOLVES:**

To recommend that the 52nd Directing Council adopt a resolution written in the following terms:

#### **SOCIAL PROTECTION IN HEALTH**

##### ***THE 52nd DIRECTING COUNCIL,***

Having reviewed the concept paper *Social Protection in Health* (Document CD52/\_\_);

Considering Resolution CSP26.R19 (2002), which supports the extension of social protection as a line of work in PAHO's technical cooperation activities;

Taking into account that the United Nations General Assembly, at its 67th session, recognized that improving social protection towards universal coverage is an investment in people that empowers them to adjust to changes in the economy and the labor market;

Aware of the framework of the Inter-American Social Protection Network (IASPN) committed to by leaders and heads of state at the Fifth Summit of the Americas to alleviate poverty and reduce inequality by sharing social protection good practices, and of the Joint Summit Working Group, of which PAHO is a member, and which supports the implementation of the IASPN;

Recognizing that while the countries of the Region have made significant progress in reforming their health systems (despite the persistence of major challenges, such as continuing to improve the quality of health services for all) and addressing segmentation and fragmentation, which creates inequity;

Aware of the need to continue to develop policies and programs focused on the construction of more integrated, equitable, and solidarity-based health systems that support the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health;

Considering that, from a strategic standpoint, social protection in health is implemented through primary health care, based on its three core values, namely equity, solidarity, and the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, and in accordance with its principles,

***RESOLVES:***

1. To take note of the concept paper *Social Protection in Health*.
2. To urge the Member States, as appropriate within their particular contexts, to:
  - (a) recognize the need for strengthening health initiatives and social protection to reduce poverty in the Region;
  - (b) incorporate the concept of social protection in health as a cornerstone of health system governance and reform processes;
  - (c) establish legal frameworks, as appropriate, that set out measures related to social protection in health;
  - (d) strengthen the health components of social protection programs (especially focusing on primary health care and social determinants of health), including conditional cash transfer and other social programs;
  - (e) promote social participation and raise awareness about the rights and duties associated with individual, family, and community health in society as a whole and all workers in the health system;

- (f) utilize established mechanisms, such as the Inter-American Social Protection Network and other subregional and regional initiatives, to share good practices in health-related antipoverty programs implemented by governments and institutions throughout the Region.
3. To request the Director to:
- (a) strengthen technical cooperation for social protection in health as a priority work area on the path toward universal coverage;
  - (b) promote the systematic production of information and evidence on the gaps and progress in social protection in health observed in the countries of the Region, including evidence and best practice around conditional cash transfers;
  - (c) disseminate and promote good practices for social protection in health and also promote the communication and linkage of progress made in the Region in social protection with discussions in the World Health Organization on universal health coverage, leveraging existing mechanisms;
  - (d) strengthen inter-institutional efforts in relation to social protection;
  - (e) develop a strategy based on this concept paper that sets a course for addressing social protection in health in the Region, which recognizes the particular contexts of Member States in the Region, taking into account that there are many ways to achieve social protection in health.

*(Fourth meeting, 18 June 2013)*