

directing council

regional committee



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XXXVII Meeting

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



XLV Meeting

Washington, D.C.
September-October 1993

Provisional Agenda Item 7.1

CD37/26 (Eng.)
28 July 1993
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT ON THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING, AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL, ON ANIMAL HEALTH

The VIII Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health (RIMSA VIII) was held at the headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) from 27 to 29 April 1993, as convened by the Director of PAHO in compliance with Resolutions XIX and XX adopted by the Directing Council of PAHO at its XVII and XVIII Meetings.

The following Officers of the Meeting were elected unanimously: President, Dr. Juan Agustín Figueroa, Minister of Agriculture of Chile; Vice Presidents, Dr. César Pereira Burgos, Minister of Agricultural Development of Panama, and Dr. George I. Brizan, Minister of Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Energy, and Production of Grenada; and Rapporteur, Dr. Enio Antonio Márquez Pereira, Secretary of Agricultural Defense of Brazil. Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo acted as Secretary *ex officio* of the Meeting.

The Meeting was attended by the representatives of 31 Member Countries, two Participating Governments, and Puerto Rico, as Associate Member of PAHO. The delegates included 15 Ministers and 10 Vice Ministers or Under Secretaries of Agriculture and Health. Also attending as observers were representatives of international technical and financial cooperation agencies; associations of livestock owners, representing the private sector; the food industry; schools of veterinary medicine; WHO Collaborating Centers; and the embassies of Egypt and Yemen.

The purpose of the Meeting was to strengthen cooperation between the agriculture and health sectors in areas of mutual interest. In keeping with the strategic approaches of the Veterinary Public Health Program, the achievements of the regional programs that are being carried out by the countries with PAHO technical cooperation were presented for analysis and discussion. These programs include: elimination of rabies, technical

cooperation in food protection, eradication of foot-and-mouth disease, and eradication of bovine tuberculosis.

Among the other major issues discussed by RIMSA VIII were the program budgets of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA) and the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses (INPPAZ) for the 1994-1995 and 1996-1997 bienniums. Another item on the agenda was the report by the Director of INPPAZ on the establishment and initial operation of this new Institute. The delegates unanimously recommended that the Governing Bodies of the Organization approve the program budgets of both centers.

Within the framework of the Strategic Orientations and Program Priorities of PAHO, the mandates of the Governing Bodies of the Organization, and the resolutions of RIMSA VII, the Meeting heard a panel discussion on "Health and Development in Subregional Integration Initiatives." It also examined the issue of "Health of Agricultural Workers: Risks of Zoonoses and Occupational Accidents related to Agriculture," in addition to hearing a report on the special situation of animal health, livestock production, and veterinary public health in the Caribbean subregion. These items were presented by the Ministers of Agriculture and Health.

The Meeting adopted 10 resolutions on the regional veterinary public health programs under way and on matters of interest for the agriculture and health sectors. These resolutions are included in the attached final report.

The Final Report of RIMSA VIII and the report on the deliberations that took place during the Meeting were presented to the 111th Meeting of the Executive Committee. The importance of this forum was pointed out as the only one that brings together the agriculture and health sectors at the highest political and technical level, which is one of the four central strategies of the Alma-Ata Declaration of 1978.

The Director is pleased to annex, for the information of the Directing Council, Document CE111/27, which was submitted to the Executive Committee and contains the Final Report of RIMSA VIII.

Annex

*executive committee of
the directing council*

*working party of
the regional committee*



**PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**

**WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**



111th Meeting
Washington, D.C.
June-July 1993

CD37/26 (Eng.)
ANNEX

Provisional Agenda Item 6.1

CE111/27 (Eng.)
20 May 1993
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

**REPORT ON THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING, AT THE MINISTERIAL
LEVEL, ON ANIMAL HEALTH**

The VIII Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health (RIMSA VIII) was held at the Headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), from 27 to 29 April 1993, as convened by the Director of PAHO in compliance with Resolution VIII adopted by the Directing Council of PAHO at its XXVII Meeting (CD27.R8).

The following Officers of the Meeting were elected unanimously: President, Dr. Juan Agustín Figueroa, Minister of Agriculture of Chile; Vice Presidents, Dr. César Pereira Burgos, Minister of Agricultural Development of Panama and Dr. George I. Brizan, Minister of Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Energy, and Production of Grenada; and Rapporteur, Dr. Enio Antonio Márquez Pereira, Secretary of Agricultural Defense of Brazil.

The inaugural session was addressed by Dr. Robert Whitney, Deputy Surgeon General, Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services of the United States of America; the President of RIMSA VIII, Dr. Juan Agustín Figueroa, Minister of Agriculture of Chile; and Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo, Director of the Pan American Health Organization.

The Meeting was attended by the representatives of 31 Member Countries, two Participating Governments, and Puerto Rico, as Associate Member of PAHO. The delegates included 15 Ministers and 10 Vice Ministers or Under Secretaries of Agriculture and Health. Also attending as observers were representatives of international technical and financial cooperation agencies; associations of livestock owners, representing the private sector; the food industry; schools of veterinary medicine; WHO Collaborating Centers; and the embassies of Egypt and Yemen.

The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen cooperation between the agriculture and health sectors in areas of mutual interest. In keeping with the strategic approaches of the Veterinary Public Health Program, the achievements of the regional programs that are being carried out by the countries with PAHO technical cooperation were presented for analysis and discussion. These programs include: elimination of rabies, technical cooperation in food protection, eradication of foot-and-mouth disease, and eradication of bovine tuberculosis.

Among the other major issues discussed by RIMSA VIII were the program budgets of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA) and the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses (INPPAZ) for the 1994-1995 and 1996-1997 bienniums. Pursuant to the request made by the Ministers of Agriculture and Health to the Director of PAHO at RIMSA VII, the Director of INPPAZ reported to the delegates of the participating countries on the establishment and initial operation of this new Institute. The delegates unanimously recommended to the Governing Bodies of the Organization that the program budgets of both centers be approved.

Within the framework of the Strategic Orientations and Program Priorities of PAHO and the mandates of the Governing Bodies of the Organization, the Meeting heard a panel discussion on "Health and Development in Subregional Integration Initiatives," which included presentations on the following subjects: articulation between health and agriculture as a basis for health in development; subregional initiatives for integration: and implications for the health and agriculture sectors; subsistence livestock production, a necessity for the health and well-being of the people; harmonization of standards for subregional marketing of food, animals, and products of animal origin; and the effects of privatization of official animal health services on subregional integration initiatives and agreements with third countries. These topics were presented by the Ministers of Agriculture and Health.

Taking into account the Declaration of Washington on workers' health and the initiative on workers' health for development, as well as the fact that agricultural workers constitute one third of the work force in the Region, the Meeting devoted one session to the subject of the health of agricultural workers and the risks of zoonoses and occupational accidents in the agriculture and livestock fields. This made it possible to review the current situation of agricultural workers' health and the activities that the countries are carrying out in this area with PAHO's technical cooperation.

In accordance with Resolution IX of the VII Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health (RIMSA VII), a report was presented and discussed on the special situation of animal health, livestock production, and veterinary public health in the Caribbean subregion. This report reiterated the need to mobilize national

and external resources in order to implement the five-year strategic plan for the development and strengthening of veterinary public health in the Caribbean.

The Meeting adopted the following 10 resolutions: Posthumous Tribute to Dr. Benjamín Blood; Technical Cooperation for the Fulfillment of Program Priorities in Veterinary Public Health; Program Budget of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center for 1994-1993 and 1996-1997; Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease; Report on the Establishment and Initial Development of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses (INPPAZ) and the Proposed Program Budget for 1994-1995 and 1996-1997; Elimination of Rabies; Food Protection and Harmonization of Standards for the Subregional Marketing of Food; Health and Development in Subregional Integration Initiatives; Health of Agricultural Workers; and Special Needs of the Caribbean Subregion for Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health. These resolutions are included in the attached Final Report.



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION

**VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING, AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL,
ON ANIMAL HEALTH**

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Washington, D.C., USA, 27 - 29 April 1993

RIMSA8/FR (Eng.)
29 April 1993
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

FINAL REPORT

CONTENT

	<u>Page</u>
PREAMBLE	I
RESOLUTIONS	
I. Posthumous Tribute to Dr. Benjamin D. Blood	1
II. Technical Cooperation for the Fulfillment of Program Priorities in Veterinary Public Health	2
III. Program Budget of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, 1994-1995 and 1996-1997	4
IV. Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Food- and-Mouth Disease	6
V. Report on the Establishment and Initial Development of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses (INPPAZ) and the Proposed Program Budget for 1994-1995 and 1996-1997	8
VI. Elimination of Rabies	10
VII. Food Protection and Harmonization of Standards for the Subregional Marketing of Food	12
VIII. Health and Development in Subregional Integration Initiatives	14
I X. Health of Agricultural Workers	16
X. Special Needs of the Caribbean Subregion for Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health	18

FINAL REPORT

The VIII Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health (RIMSA VIII) was held at the Headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, D.C., United States of America, from 27 to 29 April 1993, as convened by the Director of the Pan American Health Organization in compliance with Resolution XIX approved by the Directing Council of PAHO in its XVII Meeting.

OFFICERS

The following officers of the Meeting were elected unanimously:

- President:* Mr. Juan Agustín Figueroa
Minister of Agriculture
Chile
- Vice Presidents:* Dr. César Pereira Burgos
Minister of Agricultural Development
Panama
- Hon. George I. Brizan
Minister of Agriculture, Trade,
Industry and Production
Grenada
- Rapporteur:* Dr. Enio Antonio Márquez Pereira
Secretary of Agricultural Defense
Brazil

Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo, Director of the Pan American Health Organization, served as Secretary *ex officio*.

PARTICIPANTS

The following Governments were represented in the Meeting: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela. Puerto Rico was also represented as an Associate Member of PAHO.

Observers attended from the following organizations: International Atomic Energy Agency, Caribbean Community, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, International Office of Epizootics, World Bank, American Association of Food Hygiene Veterinarians, American Museum of National History, Associação Brasileira de Industrias Exportadoras de Carne, Asociación Nacional de Ganaderos of Ecuador, Asociación Nacional de Ganaderos of Panama, Asociación Rural of Uruguay, Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratories, Confederación de Ganaderos of Bolivia, Confederación Nacional Ganadera of Mexico, Confederaciones Rurales Argentinas, Embassy of Egypt, Embassy of Yemen, Empresa Colombiana de Productos Veterinarios, Facultad de Medicina Veterinaria y Zootécnia of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma of Mexico, Federação de Agricultura do Estado de Rio Grande do Sul, International Council for Laboratory Animal Science, Microbiological Associates, New York Medical Center, Pitman-Moore, Inc., School of Veterinary Medicine of Louisiana State University, Secretariat for Agriculture and Supply of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Tuskegee University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Missouri, University of Texas, and Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine.

SESSIONS

RIMSA VIII held an inaugural session, five plenary sessions, and a closing session.

INAUGURAL SESSION

The inaugural session was addressed by Dr. Robert Whitney, Deputy Surgeon General, Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services of the United States of America; the President of RIMSA VIII, Mr. Juan Agustín Figueroa, Minister of Agriculture of Chile, and Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo, Director of the Pan American Health Organization.

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

At the beginning of the first plenary session the provisional agenda and provisional program of sessions were examined and adopted. This was followed by consideration of the report of the Program on Veterinary Public Health on compliance with the strategic orientations and program priorities of the Pan American Health Organization, presented by Dr. Primo Arambulo III, PAHO; Analysis of the Proposed Program Budget of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center for 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, by Dr. Vicente M. Astudillo, PAHO; and the report of the IV Regular Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

(COHEFA), which was presented by the President of COHEFA IV, Dr. Lázaro Barbosa, Minister of State for Agriculture of Brazil.

SECOND PLENARY SESSION

In the second plenary session the following items were presented: Report on the Establishment and Initial Development of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses (INPPAZ) and Analysis of the Proposed Program Budget for 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, by Dr. Raúl Londoño, PAHO; Analysis of the Progress of the Regional Program for the Elimination of Rabies in the Americas, by Dr. Alfonso Ruíz, PAHO; Analysis of the Progress of the PAHO/WHO Regional Program of Technical Cooperation in Food Protection, by Dr. Claudio Roberto Almeida, PAHO; and the Report on the Joint FAO/LAEA/PAHO/WHO Technical Consultation on Irradiation as a Public Health Intervention Measure for Food-borne Diseases in Latin America and the Caribbean, by Dr. R.E. Engle, Assistant to the Administrator for Scientific Liaison, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, United States of America.

THIRD PLENARY SESSION

The third plenary session was devoted to the Panel on Health and Development in Subregional Integration Initiatives, with presentations on: Articulation between Health and Agriculture: A Basis for Health in Development, by Dr. Robert Knouss, Deputy Director, PAHO; Subregional Initiatives for Integration: Implications for the Health and Agriculture Sectors, by Dr. Guillermo Rolla Pimentel, Minister of Health of Panama; Subsistence Livestock Production: A Necessity for the Health and Well-being of Peoples, by the Ambassador from El Salvador to the White House, the Honorable Miguel Angel Salaverría, representing Mr. Antonio Cabrales, Minister of Agriculture of El Salvador; Harmonization of Standards for Subregional Marketing of Food, Animals and Products of Animal Origin, by Eng. Gonzalo Cibils, Under Secretary for Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries of Uruguay, representing Dr. Pedro Saravia, Minister of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries of Uruguay; and the Effects of Privatization of Public Veterinary Health Services in the Agriculture and Health Sectors on Subregional Integration Initiatives and in Agreements with other Countries, by Mr. Oswaldo Antezana Vaca Diez, Minister of Agricultural and Rural Affairs of Bolivia.

FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

The first order of business in the fourth plenary session was the item on Health of Agricultural Workers and Risks of Zoonoses and Occupational and Work-related

Accidents in Agriculture, presented by Dr. Mercedes Juan López, Under Secretary for Health Regulation and Promotion, Mexico, followed by the report on Resolution IX of the VII Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health (RIMSA VII) on the Special Situation of Animal health, Livestock Production, and Veterinary Public Health in the Caribbean Subregion, presented by the Honorable George I. Brizan, Minister of Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Energy and Production of Grenada.

FIFTH PLENARY SESSION

In the fifth plenary session, the Delegation of Mexico spoke on veterinary education, the Delegation of Uruguay on participation by producers in animal health and veterinary public health programs, the Delegation of Peru on the development of the primates project, and the Delegation of Ecuador on continuous education.

The President then presented copies of the report of the First Meeting of the Regional Primatology Committee for the Americas (CORP) to each member of the Board of Directors of CORP. The Secretariat announced that copies would be officially sent to all the Member Countries of PAHO.

CLOSING SESSION

The Final Report of RIMSA VIII was submitted for approval and signature during this session. In closing, the Meeting was addressed by the President, Mr. Juan Agustín Figueroa, Minister of Agriculture of Chile, and by Dr. Robert Knouss, Deputy Director, PAHO, on behalf of the Director of the Pan American Health Organization, Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo.

The President declared the Meeting closed and thanked the participants for their contributions to it.

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED

RIMSA VIII adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION I

POSTHUMOUS TRIBUTE TO DR. BENJAMIN D. BLOOD

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Considering the work carried out by Dr. Benjamin D. Blood in the field of veterinary public health as a high-level official of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and as the organizer of the Program on Veterinary Public Health and the first Director of the Pan American Zoonoses Center; and

Recognizing his unfailing dedication to the search for scientific and practical solutions in the Hemispheric fight against the prevalent zoonoses,

RESOLVES:

1. To pay heartfelt posthumous tribute to Dr. Benjamin D. Blood for his pioneering dedication to veterinary public health and its scientific development and to the fight against zoonoses.
2. To request the Director of PAHO to convey to the family of Dr. Benjamin D. Blood this posthumous expression of gratitude from the countries represented at the RIMSA VIII and the participating organizations and observers.

*(Adopted at the second plenary session,
27 April 1993)*

RESOLUTION II

TECHNICAL COOPERATION FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF PROGRAM PRIORITIES IN VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Having examined the publication "Strategic Orientations and Program Priorities for the Pan American Health Organization during the Quadrennium 1991-1994," adopted under Resolution XIII of the XXIII Pan American Sanitary Conference in 1990;

Considering the final reports of the VI and VII Inter-American Meetings, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health, which reiterated the goals of elimination of urban rabies from Latin America, eradication of foot-and-mouth disease from the Hemisphere, eradication of the bovine tuberculosis from the Americas, and consolidation of the Regional Program of Technical Cooperation in Food Protection, which commit the animal health programs of the ministries of health and agriculture;

Having examined the report of the Program on Veterinary Public Health of PAHO regarding compliance with the Strategic Orientations and Program Priorities of the Pan American Health Organization (RIMSA8/4); and

Recognizing the benefits associated with the establishment of program priorities in the implementation of technical cooperation activities under the Program on Veterinary Public Health for intersectoral action between the agriculture and health sectors, cooperation between the member countries under subregional integration initiatives, and coordination in border areas,

RESOLVES:

1. To express to the Director of PAHO its satisfaction with the progress report of the Program on Veterinary Public Health regarding compliance with the strategic orientations and program priorities of PAHO.

2. To reiterate to the countries the need for greater political commitment in order to implement the strategies and achieve the Regional targets established under the program priorities for the Program on Veterinary Public Health of the Organization. and the animal health programs.

3. To request the Director of PAHO to continue to support the countries in the development of national and subregional plans and programs for the achievement of the targets of the program priorities for the Program on Veterinary Public Health and of national animal health programs that bear on food production.

*(Adopted at the fourth plenary session,
28 April 1993)*

RESOLUTION III

PROGRAM BUDGET OF THE PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER FOR 1994-1995 AND 1996-1997

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Considering the activities programmed for the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA) for the period 1994-1995 and 1996-1997;

Taking into account the context defined by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) under the Strategies for Health for all by the Year 2000 (Official Document 173) and the Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Regional Strategies (Official Document 179), the Strategic Orientations and Program Priorities, and the Program on Veterinary Public Health of PAHO;

Considering the requests submitted by the countries, as well as the conclusions, resolutions, and recommendations of RIMSA VII, the IV Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COHEFA), and the XIX and XX Meetings of the South American Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA), held in 1992 and 1993, respectively;

Considering the goals established under the Hemispheric Plan for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in South America, with the participation of the public sector and of private producers representing the countries on COHEFA, and in recognition of the efficient levels of the technical cooperation program that PANAFTOSA is carrying out in the countries of the Region in support of the activities and strategies of the national plans for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease, and in particular:

- that the Center is the only international entity capable of providing technical cooperation and administrative advisory services, as well as ensuring the coordination, formulation, monitoring, and evaluation of programs for the prevention, control, and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease for the countries and subregional programs and under border agreements;
- that the Center is the technical reference organ for the countries of the Americas, and has gained recognition as such in other regions, for the diagnosis of vesicular diseases, quality control of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines, and epidemiological surveillance of vesicular diseases;

- that the Center maintains and coordinates, with the countries, the Regional System of Epidemiological Surveillance and the program of human resources education; and

Bearing in mind that, under the agreement in force since 1953 with PAHO, the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil continues to make a regular contribution to the Center for the upkeep of its headquarters and the remuneration of locally hired personnel, and other operating and maintenance expenses;

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend that the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization approve the Program Budget of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center in the amount of US\$8,832,800 for 1994-1995 and \$9,932,600 for 1996-1997.

2. To thank the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil for the annual contribution it makes to the Center as host country in an amount equivalent to US\$300,000 in national currency.

3. To request the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil to complete the payment of the outstanding balance of their regular contributions for the maintenance of the Center's headquarters, which for 1992 amounts to US\$107,974.13 and for 1993, \$287,754.33, in national currency.

4. To request the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil to ensure that for the budget periods of 1994-1995 and 1996-1997 the regular contributions in local currency for the upkeep of the Center's headquarters and the remuneration of locally hired personnel continue to be in an amount at least equivalent to US\$300,000.

5. To request the Governments of Argentina, Bolivia, and Venezuela to make the maximum effort to complete payment of the outstanding balances they owe to the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center.

6. To recommend to the Member Governments and international agencies that they continue to make extrabudgetary contributions to PANAFTOSA for the funding of specific projects related to programs of prevention, control and evaluation of foot-and-mouth disease.

*(Adopted at the fourth plenary session,
28 April 1993)*

RESOLUTION IV

HEMISPHERIC COMMITTEE FOR THE ERADICATION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Considering that the information presented by the Secretariat of COHEFA at its IV Meeting shows increased mobilization of political will of livestock producers, meat processors and professionals in private practice, in programs for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease, mainly in the countries of the Southern Cone;

Having noted a significant change in control procedures and in the participation of users and of the various sectors involved in the activities of the programs, which have become important sources of support for the continuity and effectiveness of the efforts of the countries to solve a problem that hinders economic development; and

Cognizant that some countries are still lagging in their actions for eradication of the disease, principally the Andean and Amazon subregions,

RESOLVES:

1. To endorse the resolution of the IV Regular Meeting of COHEFA, as well as the resolutions of the XIX and XX Regular Meetings of the South American Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA).

2. To underscore the important advances of the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, in particular the gains made by Uruguay, which has been free of foot-and-mouth disease for 34 months.

3. To call on the governments and on the private institutions with ties to the livestock industry, as well as on all social sectors in the Andean and Amazon areas, to seek alternative modes of administrative organization that will enable them to join efforts and resources for the development of the programs for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease.

4. To recognize the efforts of the public and private sectors of the countries of the Hemisphere and rural producers in particular, who with firm resolve, dedication, and the continuity of their programs have helped obtain successful results in the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease.

5. To thank the Director of the Pan American Health Organization for the development of the technical cooperation program for the advancement of the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

*(Adopted at the fourth plenary session,
28 April 1993)*

RESOLUTION V

REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND INITIAL DEVELOPMENT
OF THE PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FOOD PROTECTION
AND ZOOSES (INPPAZ) AND THE PROPOSED
PROGRAM BUDGET FOR 1994-1995 AND 1996-1997

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Having examined the report on the establishment of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses and the proposed program budget for the bienniums 1994-1995 and 1996-1997 (Document RIMSAS8/7);

Taking account of the expressions of support of the authorities of the Government of the Argentine Republic for the development and operation of the Institute;

Having been informed of the support expressed at the Meeting of the International Coordination Council of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses for the study of operating costs of INPPAZ and the proposal for financing during the biennium 1994-1995; and

Considering the importance and complexity of the requests for technical cooperation made to the Institute by the immense majority of the countries of the Region,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Argentina for its support in the establishment and initial development of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses and its commitment for the financing of it.
2. To recommend that the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization approve the proposed program budget of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses for the biennium 1994-1995 in the amount of US\$9,618,267 and for the biennium 1996-1997 in the amount of \$10,383,518.
3. To request the Government of Argentina to complete the payment of US\$3,255,000 for the biennium 1992-1993, committed for the financing of the Institute.

4. To recommend that the Governing Bodies approve the proposal for financing of the Institute for the biennium 1994-1995 presented in document RIMSA8/7, and to urge the Member Countries to affirm their participation therein.

5. To endorse the recommendations of the International Coordination Council, especially those concerning the orientation of the Institute's technical cooperation in international reference, training, program development, and dissemination of information.

6. To express thanks and support to the Director of the Pan American Health Organization for the actions carried out in connection with the initial development of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses.

*(Adopted at the fourth plenary session,
28 April 1993)*

RESOLUTION VI

ELIMINATION OF RABIES

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Considering the advances achieved in the elimination of rabies in the major cities of Latin America and the fact that there are cities and areas in which rabies has been controlled and which are now disease-free, as is indicated in the document entitled "Analysis of the Progress of the Regional Program for the Elimination of Rabies in the Americas" (Document RIMSA8/8);

Taking into account the resolutions relating to the elimination of rabies in Latin America of RIMSA IV, V, VI and VII;

Recognizing that the risk of canine rabies continues to exist in some countries;

Considering the growing risk of sylvatic rabies, in particular rabies transmitted by vampire bats, for public health and the economy of the countries; and

Recognizing the importance of collaboration between the health and agriculture sectors in the surveillance and elimination of rabies,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the countries to maintain the political commitment and the allocation of resources necessary to achieve the goals of the Regional Program for the Elimination of Rabies, as well as to strengthen intersectoral articulation between the ministries of health and agriculture.

2. To request the Pan American Health Organization to strengthen and coordinate the ties between the various countries with a view to facilitating technological exchange and the availability of vaccines to improve the programs in the countries with the greatest needs.

3. To request the ministers of agriculture and health to assign resources for the surveillance and prevention of rabies transmitted by vampire bats in order to implement the plan of action approved by RIMSA VII.

4. To request PAHO to define the parameters for recognizing cities, areas, and/or countries that are free from canine rabies and to carry out studies that will allow the countries to gain the corresponding official recognition.

5. To request PAHO to continue to provide support in order to give technical sustainability to the national programs, in particular for monitoring the quality of laboratory diagnoses, strengthening epidemiological surveillance, improving medical care for exposed people, ensuring quality control of vaccines, training human resources, and disseminating information to the community.

*(Adopted at the fourth plenary session,
28 April 1993)*

RESOLUTION VII

FOOD PROTECTION AND HARMONIZATION OF STANDARDS FOR THE SUBREGIONAL MARKETING OF FOOD

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Having examined the document on the analysis of the progress of the Regional Program of Technical Cooperation in Food Protection (Document RIMSA8/9);

Having regard to the mission and functions of INPPAZ in the control of chemical and biological residues and contaminants in foods;

Having reviewed the document on harmonization of standards for subregional marketing of food, animals, and products of animal origin (Document RIMSA8/14) of the Panel on Health and Development in Subregional Integration Initiatives;

Reaffirming the resolutions relating to food protection adopted at RIMSA Meetings IV, V, VI and VII;

Cognizant of the ever-more evident need to eliminate non-tariff barriers through the harmonization of health standards and regulations, as well as the standardization of administrative and technical procedures for the marketing of food; and

Considering the degree of coordination achieved by PAHO with the international agencies and nongovernmental organizations concerned with the implementation of activities relating to food safety and on the ongoing concern that subregional integration initiatives achieve the desired harmony in the marketing of food; and

Considering the offer made by the Ministry of Agriculture, Supply and Agrarian Reform of Brazil of laboratory resources for the analysis of residues of food contaminants;

RESOLVES:

1. To reiterate to the countries the need to make the efforts needed to develop integrated national food protection programs and to urge those that have not yet done so to formulate intersectoral policies in keeping with national public health priorities.

2. To recommend to the countries that they involve the food industry and the nongovernmental organizations concerned with food protection and safety in their program decisions.

3. To request the Director of PAHO to support the efforts of the countries under subregional integration initiatives for the harmonization of health standards with a view to eliminating non-tariff barriers in the marketing of food.

4. To request the Director of PAHO that a project for the control of chemical and biological residues and contaminants in foods be included under the Regional Program of Technical Cooperation in Food Protection through INPPAZ.

*(Adopted at the fifth plenary session,
29 April 1993)*

RESOLUTION VIII

HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN
SUBREGIONAL INTEGRATION INITIATIVES

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Having examined Documents RIMSA8/11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 from the Panel on Health and Development in Subregional Integration Initiatives;

Taking into account the Pan American Health Organization's approach to health in development and its institutional policy on integration initiatives;

Recognizing that successful subregional initiatives have been undertaken in the Region of the Americas;

Aware of the need to support subregional integration initiatives in order to strengthen intersectoral action between the agriculture and health sectors and thus fulfill the just aspirations of the peoples of the Americas; and

Taking into consideration the various statements and initiatives presented by the delegations from the participating countries with regard to subregional integration initiatives and intersectoral coordination between agriculture and health,

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend that the countries formulate and implement articulation strategies in those areas where intersectoral action between the ministries of agriculture and health will help to ensure optimization of their resources in the provision of health coverage.

2. To urge the countries to take appropriate measures to promote, facilitate, and implement multilateral articulation activities between the ministries of health and agriculture for the purpose of developing plans and programs of animal health and

3. To request the Director of PAHO to:
- a) Adopt the necessary measures to cooperate with subregional integration initiatives and the countries participating in them in the implementation of the intersectoral activities described in operative paragraphs 1 and 2.
 - b) Promote country initiatives that involve the formulation of joint programs of technical and/or economic cooperation (TCDC/ECDC) in veterinary public health and animal health with emphasis on food protection and on the prevention, control and eradication of the leading zoonoses, with emphasis on tuberculosis and brucellosis.
 - c) Strengthen coordination with other international and bilateral agencies in order to mobilize financial and technical resources in support of joint programs in the area of veterinary public health and animal health, especially under subregional integration initiatives.
 - d) Document, analyze and circulate the experiences with the different models for change in the organization of veterinary care services.

*(Adopted at the fifth plenary session,
29 April 1993)*

RESOLUTION IX

HEALTH OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Having seen the Document RIMSA8/16 on the Health of Agricultural Workers, Risks of Zoonoses and Occupational Accidents Related to Agriculture; and considering the size of the population employed in agriculture in the Region, and the impact on health and well-being of the different physical, agrochemical and biological hazards to which these people are subjected in their work;

Taking into account the Declaration of Washington on Workers' Health of 26 February 1992 and the Workers' Health initiative developed by the Pan American Health Organization and its Member Countries, with a special focus on those workers who are more exposed to risks in the worst socioeconomic conditions and less served by health services; and

Considering that it is a responsibility of the governments, and especially of the sectors of health, labor and agriculture, with the participation of employers and private economic groups, to promote and develop activities for improving the working conditions of agricultural workers with a view to the attainment of sustainable socioeconomic stability and proper equilibrium and protection of the environment and ecology, and

Bearing in mind that this requires the support of the technical cooperation agencies, good knowledge of the problems, technical standards and up-to-date legislation, the design and conduct of research to arrive at viable and feasible models for the prevention and control of risks, and qualified professional and technical personnel to plan and execute the programs,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the countries to confirm their policy decision, in keeping with the Declaration of Washington on Workers' Health signed on 26 February 1992, to contribute through their coordinated and integrated government sectors: health, labor, social security, agriculture, and economic affairs, with the support of employers and workers and with the cooperation of the different international agencies concerned, to address the problems of the rural worker in order to improve his standard of living and his conditions of health and well-being.

2. To request the countries to carry out joint intersectoral measures for:
 - a) The review and updating of legislation on the rights of agricultural workers;
 - b) The strengthening and establishment of epidemiological information systems on accidents, poisonings and intoxications and on infectious and parasitic diseases, especially zoonoses, that affect agricultural workers and their families;
 - c) The establishment of integrated national programs of prevention and for the protection of the health of agricultural workers taking account of the guidelines of the document considered and the initiative of Workers' Health for Development.

3. To request the countries to take into account in their programs for rural workers the integral protection of workers' families, widening the coverage of health services, social security and education, improving housing and domestic hygiene, and providing access to drinking water and sanitation, food and nutrition, and environmental protection services, within the context of social justice.

4. To request the Director of PAHO to work with the countries in the analysis and evaluation of different models for addressing the specific problems and risks, and support their implementation and development using the strategy of technical cooperation among countries.

*(Adopted at the fifth plenary session,
29 April 1993)*

RESOLUTION X

**SPECIAL NEEDS OF THE CARIBBEAN SUBREGION FOR
ANIMAL HEALTH AND VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH**

THE VIII INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Having examined Documents RIMSA8/17 on the special needs of the Caribbean Subregion for animal health and veterinary public health, RIMSA8/5, on the Pan American Food-and-Mouth Disease Center, and RIMSA8/7, on the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses;

Considering that the countries of the Caribbean have approved a 5-Year Strategic Plan for the Development and Strengthening of Veterinary Public Health in the Caribbean at the meeting of Chief Veterinary Officers held in Jamaica in 1991;

Considering the expressions of endorsement and support by the delegates of the countries in the subregion and of the representative of CARICOM for execution of the 5-year Strategic Plan; and

Taking into consideration the technical cooperation that the Pan American Health Organization can provide through its Veterinary Public Health Program,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the countries of the Caribbean Community and Suriname to strengthen their veterinary services in order to put the 5-Year Strategic Plan into execution.
2. To request the countries of the Caribbean Community and Suriname and the Secretary General of CARICOM to collaborate with the Director of PAHO in mobilizing national and external resources for execution of the Plan.
3. To request the Director of PAHO to provide technical cooperation in the implementation of the above-mentioned 5-Year Strategic Plan for the Caribbean.

4. To request that PAHO, through the resources of its Veterinary Public Health Program, in particular through INPPAZ and PANAFTOSA, provide more technical assistance to countries in the Caribbean Region by conducting courses and seminars, in collaboration with Caribbean Epidemiology Center and the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of the West Indies; supplying diagnostic antigens for leptospirosis, bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis; providing direct technical cooperation to prevent the introduction of foot-and-mouth disease and other exotic diseases and to control and prevent zoonoses; and strengthening food safety and food protection activities in the Caribbean Community and Suriname.

*(Adopted at the fifth plenary session,
29 April 1993)*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the President of RIMSA VIII, and the Secretary *ex officio*, Director of the Pan American Health Organization, sign the present Final Report in the English and Spanish languages, the two texts being equally authentic.

DONE in Washington, D.C., United States of America, on this twenty-ninth day of April nineteen hundred and ninety-three.

Juan Agustín Figueroa
President of RIMSA VIII

Carlyle Guerra de Macedo
Secretary *ex officio*
Director of the
Pan American Health Organization