



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



36th DIRECTING COUNCIL

43rd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 21-25 September 1992

RESOLUTION

CD36.R14

ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) IN THE AMERICAS

THE 36th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen Document CD36/12 on acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) presented by the Director;

Taking into account World Health Assembly Resolution WHA45.35;1

Viewing with concern the rapid progress of the epidemic of AIDS and infection with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in the Americas and its growing spread among men, women, young people, and children;

Considering the serious social and economic repercussions of the epidemic in such varied aspects as cost of medical care, disruptive effects on the family, loss of productivity, stigmatization of and discrimination against infected persons, and impact on other health programs and social services in the countries;

Recognizing, on the one hand, the progress and current status of national HIV prevention and AIDS control programs and, on the other hand, the need for a multisectoral approach and for integration and decentralization activities for the prevention of HIV and control of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases at the state (provincial, departmental), district (municipal), and community levels in the Member Countries; and

Aware of the growing concern aroused by the association between HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis and the considerable adverse effects on measures for the control of tuberculosis in most of the countries of the Region,

RESOLVES

1. To adopt the updated strategies and priorities of the Global Program on AIDS (GPA) in the Americas, with special emphasis on its effects on the female, adolescent, and child population, greater emphasis on the health care of persons with HIV/AIDS, and better integration with other programs for health, social well-being, and economic development in the countries.

2. To urge the Member Countries:

a) To intensify national efforts for the prevention of AIDS and achieve commitment and leadership at the highest decision-making and/or political levels;

b) To mobilize and guarantee the allocation of resources and multisectoral participation in response to the pandemic, including efforts to reduce sexual, blood-borne, and perinatal transmission of HIV infection, and involving all government sectors and key elements of society, such as community and religious groups, nongovernmental organizations, and other community leaders;

c) To strengthen and assign highest priority to activities under the Tuberculosis Control Program in coordination with the AIDS Program;

d) To promote close coordination and, if required, the integration of activities for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and of other sexually transmitted diseases (STD), as well as cooperation with other health programs (for example, tuberculosis, maternal and child health, prevention of drug addiction, etc.) and education at all levels;

e) To protect the human rights of those infected with HIV/AIDS;

f) To encourage and support the strengthening of the role of WHO and PAHO as leaders in the control and prevention of the epidemic.

3. To request the bilateral and multilateral agencies, and nongovernmental and volunteer organizations, to intensify their support activities and their attention to the world struggle against HIV/AIDS, in keeping with the world strategy against AIDS, and to mobilize human, financial, and moral support at the national, subregional, and regional levels in the Americas.

4. To request the Director:

a) To promote an interprogram and interagency approach in the Americas, in keeping with the world strategy against AIDS, using existing mechanisms, initiatives, and programs in the Region and in the countries, and in close cooperation with other United Nations agencies;

- b) To continue carrying out support activities for the countries, specifically in the strengthening of national capabilities for surveillance of the epidemic and for the surveillance and evaluation of program activities;
- c) To promote and coordinate exchanges of information among the Member Governments on the results of their education programs and social communication strategies based on the cultural values and patterns of each country;
- d) To provide for the framing by the appropriate technical agencies of specific recommendations for the epidemiological surveillance of the tuberculosis-HIV association, primary and secondary chemoprophylaxis procedures, and the diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring of tuberculosis in persons infected with HIV, and to promote the epidemiological and operational research needed for optimal understanding of a new and changing situation;
- e) To explore possible sources and mechanisms to support the strengthening of national programs for the prevention of AIDS/HIV/STD, including subregional approaches, the transfer of appropriate technology, and the inclusion of AIDS as an agenda item in meetings of Heads of State in the Region.

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