



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **12nd DIRECTING COUNCIL**

12nd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., 14 - 26 August 1960*

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CD12.R17***

### **STATUS OF SMALLPOX ERADICATION IN THE AMERICAS**

*THE 12<sup>nd</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having examined the report presented by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau; and  
Considering that, although smallpox has already disappeared in various countries of the Americas and is being eliminated in others through intensive vaccination programs, there are still some countries in which the disease persists and where intensive vaccination programs have not been undertaken, a situation that represents a serious public health problem for the entire Hemisphere,

#### ***RESOLVES***

1. To express its satisfaction with the success achieved by various Member Governments in eradicating smallpox from their territories, and with the development of nation-wide vaccination campaigns in other countries, which makes it possible to foresee the disappearance of the disease in the not-too-distant future.
2. To urge once again that the Governments of countries where smallpox still exists, and where no nation-wide eradication campaigns have been undertaken, intensify their efforts to implement such programs as soon as possible.

3. To recommend that the Member Governments give special attention to the maintenance of adequate levels of immunity among the population in order to consolidate the gains already achieved.
4. To recommend that the Member Governments provide the public health services with the facilities necessary for the laboratory diagnosis of suspected cases of smallpox, a measure that becomes increasingly important as the eradication programs progress.
5. To call the attention of the Member Governments to the importance of the correct application of the special measures concerning smallpox set forth in the International Sanitary Regulations.

*Aug. 1960 OD 36, 22*