



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



13rd DIRECTING COUNCIL

13rd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 3 - 13 October 1961

RESOLUTION

CD13.R36

FINANCIAL OUTLAY REQUIRED TO FORMULATE A CONTINENTAL PLAN TO COMBAT TUBERCULOSIS

THE 13rd DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Considering that tuberculosis, which is a serious economic and social problem, continues to be one of the main causes of morbidity and mortality in the Americas;

Bearing in mind that, from the public health viewpoint, the approach to the problem of tuberculosis has changed fundamentally with the advent of new therapeutic products;

Bearing in mind that the cost of the prevention and control of this disease will be far less than the heavy burden of hospitalization, workmen's compensation, and loss of productivity in industry and agriculture; and

Bearing in mind that Document CD13/17, Rev. 1, 1 indicates the need for obtaining additional information on the nature and scope of the problem in each country in order to carry out a detailed study of the tuberculosis problem that will serve as a basis for formulating programs to combat the disease,

RESOLVES

1. To recommend that the Member Governments carry out tuberculosis surveys in their respective territories in order to gain a better knowledge of the incidence and prevalence of the infection and the disease, for which purpose it is essential to properly organize a more intensive search for cases still undetected and to ensure the timely reporting of all cases.
2. To recommend that the Member Governments endeavor to determine the cost of specific tuberculosis control measures, their efficacy, and the country's financial possibilities of undertaking them, so as to be in a position to prepare, as soon as possible, national plans to combat the disease, supported by a progressive effort to provide for their adequate financing.
3. To recommend the establishment of goals that should be attained as far as possible in the next ten years in order to make it possible to eliminate tuberculosis as a public health problem in the Americas in the not-too-distant future. In the preparation of plans to combat the disease, the countries could take into account the following goals:
 - a) To reduce by at least one half the present mortality in each country within the next ten years;
 - b) To reduce morbidity, when an adequate approximation of its rate is known, by 33 per cent within the next ten years; and
 - c) To reduce tuberculosis primoinfection, when an adequate approximation of its rate is known, to levels below 2 per cent in children under five years of age, 10 per cent in children under ten, and 20 per cent in those under fifteen, within the next ten years.
4. To recommend to the Member Governments that have not yet done so to review policy with respect to tuberculosis control programs in order to attain the best possible results with the human and material resources available, and to further recommend that the tuberculosis control programs be made a part of the regular activities of the local public health services.
5. To recommend that there be encouraged in each country the active and well-organized participation of private initiative, so that it may join in the efforts, which should include the adoption of positive measures to bring about the improvement of all the factors that make up the physical, biological, and social environment of individuals and collectivities.
6. To encourage the countries to obtain additional funds in accordance with the possibilities established in the Charter of Punta del Este, taking into account the important role of tuberculosis control in the development and progress of the Americas.
7. To authorize the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to attempt to obtain additional financial resources that will make it possible to carry out a continental plan to combat tuberculosis, including the investigation of all problems that bear a relation to the disease, in order to help reach the most rapid solution possible.

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