



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



# **31st DIRECTING COUNCIL**

37th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., 23-28 September 1985*

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## ***RESOLUTION***

### ***CD31.R20***

## **ESSENTIAL DRUG PROGRAM**

*THE 31<sup>st</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having seen the report on the progress of the implementation of the Organization's essential drug program (Document CD31/8); and

Considering that the Program is progressing in accordance with the recommendations<sup>1</sup> approved by the XXIX Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO,

### ***RESOLVES***

1. To recommend that the Member Governments:

- a) Formulate intersectoral policies and implement national programs on essential drugs, recognizing the importance of such drugs for the extension of coverage of health services and the need to rationalize expenditures for these drugs;
- b) Ensure that drugs marketed are of good quality and available at reasonable cost to all sectors of the population;
- c) Promote and monitor the rational and wise prescription and use of marketed drugs;
- d) Give emphasis to the analysis and formulation of pharmaceutical policies, to the strengthening of controls and quality assurance, to the development of systems for the supply of essential drugs, to

the encouragement of domestic production where this is economically feasible and where countries are able to meet quality standards, and to manpower training, operations research, and evaluation mechanisms;

e) Examine the possibilities held forth by technical and economic cooperation among developing countries (TCDC/ECDC) for solution of the problems involved in making drugs accessible to populations in the Region.

2. To request the Director:

a) To continue promoting cooperation by the Organization in the development and implementation of program activities relating to essential drugs, in collaboration with WHO's Action Program on Essential Drugs;

b) To mobilize extrabudgetary resources for strengthening the Regional program and improving its capability for technical cooperation in support of national programs on essential drugs;

c) To support TCDC/ECDC activities directed at finding ways to improve the supply of drugs of adequate quality at the lowest possible prices in the countries of the Region.

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