



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



27th DIRECTING COUNCIL
32nd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 22 September – 3 October 1980

RESOLUTION

CD27.R41

ABUSE OF NARCOTIC AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

THE 27th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Taking into account Resolution WHA33.271 of the Thirty-third World Health Assembly concerning greater attention to drug abuse in WHO programs;

Considering Resolution 34 177 of the Thirty-fourth United Nations General Assembly calling for increased programmatic activity in drug abuse prevention and control by the United Nations agencies and programs;

Recognizing that the growing abuse of psychoactive drugs, including alcohol, knows no national boundaries and is a problem of particular relevance to the social and economic well-being of each nation and of the Region as a whole;

Further recognizing that drug abuse has a particular negative impact on public health and must be addressed at the community level; and

Being aware of the multisectoral aspects of the WHO goal of health for all by the year 2000 and the role of primary health care in achieving that goal,

RESOLVES

1. To call the attention of the Member Governments of the WHO Region of the Americas to the relevance of these resolutions to drug abuse problems in the Region.
2. To urge Member Governments to define opportunities for incorporating broad-based multisectoral drug abuse prevention components in their evolving national strategies for "health for all" and in their biennial national PAHO programs and budgets in order to facilitate the integration of drug abuse prevention components in the health service systems.
3. To recommend that Member Governments give priority to the establishment of mechanisms for monitoring the epidemiology of drug abuse, particularly the establishment of surveillance systems to identify and measure new and existing drug abuse problems.
4. To call upon the Director to collaborate with the countries in designing appropriate surveillance and information systems as a means toward better defining current national and regional drug abuse trends.
5. To further request the Director, in order to facilitate the implementation of paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 above, to prepare a report for the XXI Pan American Sanitary Conference, in 1982, summarizing the status of drug abuse in the Region, describing the current activities of PAHO relating to drug abuse, including sources of funding (both regular and extrabudgetary), and proposing new approaches that Member Countries might consider for addressing this increasing problem in their national strategies and in their PAHO country program proposals.
6. To request the Member Governments to assist the Organization in seeking extrabudgetary resources for these national programs.

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