



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.R10

**IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY OF WHO'S STRUCTURES IN THE
LIGHT OF ITS FUNCTIONS**

THE 27th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Recognizing the commitment to the goal of health for all by the year 2000;

Bearing in mind Resolutions WHA30.43 (1977), WHA31.27 (1978), and WHA33.17 (1980),¹ as well as Resolution XXIV of the XXVI Meeting of the Directing Council (1979) and Resolution XVII of the 84th Meeting of the Executive Committee (1980) concerning the Study of WHO's Structures in Light of Its Functions;

Considering the opinions expressed by the countries in the report of the Member Governments of the Region of the Americas on the above-mentioned study; and

Having examined the report and recommendations to the Directing Council presented by the Subcommittee on the Study of WHO's Structures in Light of Its Functions concerning the implications of the study for the Region (Document CD27/25),

RESOLVES

1. To thank the Subcommittee for its report and recommendations.
2. To seek to implement the recommendations addressed to the Directing Council by deciding:

a) To utilize the leadership capacity that exists in the Region in order to play a stronger role in relation to the Governing Bodies of WHO, particularly in view of the need to maintain continuity between biennial Assemblies, by:

- i) Sharing regional information and experience in dealing with health problems;
- ii) Presenting resolutions at the global level in relation to health needs and programs, and proposing planning and administrative mechanisms;
- iii) Making the expertise of individuals from specific Member Countries available to WHO expert committees;

b) To promote increased emphasis on monitoring and evaluation of the Organization's activities;

c) To consider the establishment of a regional mechanism for improving the flow of extrabudgetary resources available for priority programs, including the flow from global to regional level of WHO

3. To recommend that Member Governments:

a) Establish dynamic and evolving national "health for all" plans that include appropriate indicators and quantifiable objectives so as to provide the means of assessing the progress in health already made and still to be made;

b) Ensure, in cooperation with the Secretariat, that national health programs are appropriately consistent with the world-wide and Region-wide priorities of the Organization;

c) Place emphasis at the national level on the equitable redistribution of available resources within health and related sectors for technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC);

d) Work to maintain the continuity and to enhance the preparation and coordination of the delegations to the meetings of the Governing Bodies of PAHO and WHO, in order to achieve a more consistent participation;

e) Set up joint PAHO/country health programming committees, with multisectoral participation, in order to facilitate the exchange of information on health programming and collaboration in the formulation and execution of PAHO programs.

4. To recommend that the Director:

a) Strengthen the Organization's plans and programs designed to give increased support to the achievement of health for all by the year 2000, by:

i) Increasing the horizontal integration of the technical components of the Secretariat in order to ensure full coordination of the staff's capabilities in respect of multisectoral, national, regional, and world strategies;

ii) Endeavoring to synchronize the Organization's planning cycles with those of WHO, taking into consideration the planning cycles of other agencies within the United Nations system;

iii) Analyzing the content and timing of the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Directing Council in order to strengthen PAHO's contribution to the review process of the Executive Board and World Health Assembly, and making recommendations to the 86th Meeting of the Executive Committee;

iv) Seeking ways to broaden the scope of the Advisory Committee on Medical Research (ACMR) in order to utilize its capabilities in the regional priority-setting process;

b) Consider reorienting the role and functions of the Pan American Health and Education Foundation (PAHEF) to serve as a mechanism for multisectoral fund-raising.

c) Devise additional mechanisms for assisting Member Governments in evaluating their health status and the effectiveness of programs undertaken within or outside the Organization to deal with national health problems, in order to aid the Governments in future health planning and programming;

d) Increase the emphasis on evaluation, utilizing AMPES and the Pan American Centers model, review both AMRO and country projects in terms of their priority in achieving health for all by the year 2000, and report on the progress made in these evaluations to future meetings of the Directing Council;

e) Play a more vigorous leadership role in working with Member Governments to facilitate their interaction to pursue TCDC efforts in matters of common interest, using such mechanisms as the Pan American Centers and advisory committees to focus on:

i) Stimulating cooperative activities at subregional levels;

ii) Providing information calculated to encourage a dialogue among interested countries;

iii) Establishing and coordinating the exchange of information;

f) Ensure that the process for selecting future Country Representatives is broadened to include qualified applicants with international experience coming from a variety of backgrounds (e.g., the social sciences, engineering, business administration) and with appropriate basic skills and experience, particularly in management, to meet the wider responsibilities of the coming decades;

g) Continue to increase the support given to Country Representatives and delegate to them increased responsibilities, at the same time improving communications and managerial support and providing more flexible administrative guidelines for field work. In conjunction with this, the Director should:

i) Emphasize in-service training for field office staff by means of seminars, workshops, correspondence courses, and other continuing education mechanisms;

ii) Devise ways in which Country Representatives can participate in the preparation and analysis of PAHO documents;

iii) Ensure that all Country Representatives are informed of the decisions made by the PAHO Governing Bodies.

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