



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



47th DIRECTING COUNCIL
58th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 25-29 September 2006

RESOLUTION

CD47.R10

**REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINING
NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS IN THE AMERICAS**

THE 47th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having considered the report of the Director on the Regional Strategy for Sustaining National Immunization Programs in the Americas (CD47/11, Rev. 1);

Acknowledging that achieving the elimination of rubella and congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) by 2010 will require sustained efforts by the Member States and their development partners;

Taking into account the challenges confronting the ministries of health and finance in the allocation and disbursement of scarce resources for competing high-priority public health interventions including immunization;

Considering the need to make evidence-based decisions, including economic analyses for the introduction of new and underutilized vaccines against epidemiologically important diseases;

Aware that the World Health Organization has endorsed the Global Immunization Vision and Strategies (GIVS) and has promoted achieving the Millennium Development Goals; and

Taking into account the pioneering role and sustained commitment of the Region of the Americas in immunization programs, including the celebration of Vaccination Week in the Americas, and acknowledging the progress achieved so far by Member States,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Member States to:
 - (a) implement policies and operational strategies to achieve greater than 95% coverage of all routine vaccines in all districts or equivalent administrative units and meet the rubella and CRS elimination target by 2010, as previously endorsed by the Directing Council;
 - (b) explore the potential for expanding legal and fiscal space and identifying new revenue sources to sustainably finance immunization program development, including the introduction of new vaccines against rotavirus, pneumococcus, and human papillomavirus;
 - (c) support the mortality reduction targets, consistent with GIVS and the Millennium Development Goals for rotavirus, pneumococcus, and human-papillomavirus-associated diseases;
 - (d) utilize the PAHO Revolving Fund for Vaccine Procurement to purchase new and underutilized vaccines, including seasonal influenza, yellow fever, rotavirus, pneumococcal and human papillomavirus vaccines;
 - (e) continue supporting the yearly celebration of Vaccination Week in the Americas.
2. To request the Director to:
 - (a) support country efforts to complete the unfinished immunization agenda of achieving greater than 95% coverage of all routine vaccines in all districts or equivalent administrative units, particularly the poorest districts and municipalities, and indigenous populations;
 - (b) assist transition in Member States from child to family immunization with an initial focus on rubella vaccination, supporting the elimination target, and on seasonal influenza vaccine introduction to support country pandemic preparedness;
 - (c) support country activities to integrate in-depth economic studies into the decision-making process for the introduction of new and underutilized vaccines;
 - (d) assist countries in their efforts to create legal and fiscal space and identify new sources of revenue for sustainable immunization program development;

- (e) promote expanded country participation in the PAHO Revolving Fund for all vaccines and encourage the mobilization of voluntary contributions to rapidly increase its capitalization;
- (f) search for support mechanisms to guarantee the sustainability of vaccination programs in the developing countries;
- (g) prepare, disseminate, and support the implementation of protocols for introducing new vaccines into the national programs, and streamline certification and implementation processes.

(Eighth Meeting, 28 September 2006)