



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



120th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 23 - 26 June 1997

120th Session of the Executive Committee

RESOLUTIONS

CE120.R1 The Executive Committee,

Having considered the report of the Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development (Document CE120/7), which contains a proposal to modify the terms of reference of the Subcommittee,

RESOLVES:

To take note of the report of the Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development (Document CE120/7).

To thank the members of the Subcommittee for their work and Dr. Earl A. Martin for his leadership as Chairperson.

To request the Director to continue encouraging the countries to develop initiatives consistent with the priority accorded to women, health, and development.

To approve the modifications to the terms of reference of the Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development of the Executive Committee contained in Annex B of Document CE120/7.

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CE120.R2 The Executive Committee,

Having considered the report of the Director on the collection of quota contributions (Document CE120/23 and Add. I) and the report provided on Member States in arrears in the payment of their quota contributions to the extent that they can be subject to the application of Article 6.B of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization;

Noting the provisions of Article 6.B of the PAHO Constitution relating to the suspension of voting privileges of Member States that fail to meet their financial obligations and the potential application of these provisions to seven Member States; and

Noting with concern that there are 23 Member States that have not made any payments towards their 1997 quota assessments and that the amount collected for 1997 assessments represents only 30% of total assessments,

RESOLVES:

To take note of the report of the Director on the collection of quota contributions (Document CE120/23 and Add. I).

To thank the Member States that have already made payments for 1997 and to urge the other Member States to pay their outstanding contributions as soon as possible.

To recommend to the XL Meeting of the Directing Council that the voting restrictions contained in Article 6.B of the PAHO Constitution be strictly applied to those Member States that by the opening of that meeting have not made substantial payments towards their quota commitments or in accordance with their deferred payment plans.

To request the Director to continue to inform the Member States of any balances due and to report to the XL Meeting of the Directing Council on the status of the collection of quota contributions.

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CE120.R3 The Executive Committee,

Having considered the Report of the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming (Document CE120/6);

Having examined the proposed program budget of the Pan American Health Organization for the biennium 1998-1999 contained in Official Document 281;

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the Director to prepare this proposed program budget in a climate of continuing fiscal constraints;

Further noting with satisfaction the transparency of the budget document and its continued emphasis on the expected results of the programs proposed; and

Bearing in mind Article 14.C of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization and Article III, paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6, of the PAHO Financial Regulations,

RESOLVES:

To thank the Subcommittee on Planning and Programming for its preliminary review of and report on the proposed program budget.

To express appreciation to the Director for the attention given to cost savings and the strengthening of programs in his development of the program budget, in particular, with respect to the increased collection of funds from countries in arrears and cost containment by the program management at Headquarters.

To request the Director to restructure the program budget proposals to achieve a level of zero nominal growth for presentation to the XL Meeting of the Directing Council, consistent with the recommendations and suggestions made by the Executive Committee during the review of Official Document 281.

To recommend to the XL Meeting of the Directing Council that it consider the proposed program budget of the Pan American Health Organization for the biennium 1998-1999, with an effective working budget of \$168,578,000, as redefined by the Director, and that it adopt the required resolutions on appropriations and quota contributions, especially in regard to encouraging the countries to meet their payment obligations as soon as possible.

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CE120.R4 The Executive Committee,

Considering the proactive policies of Canada and the United States of America to control tobacco use and the likelihood that tobacco manufacturers will increase marketing of tobacco products in other countries, with consequent harmful effects on the health of the populations in these countries;

Bearing in mind that the absence of strong legislation on tobacco control in many countries of the Region facilitates the marketing and distribution of tobacco products;

Aware that tobacco use is a primary factor in the perceptible rise in morbidity and mortality from noncommunicable diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disorders, and chronic respiratory diseases, and that this factor is modifiable; and

Cognizant of the fact that adolescents between the ages of 12 and 18 are particularly susceptible to advertising that leads to tobacco use and addiction, especially given the inadequate control in many countries,

RESOLVES:

To request that PAHO Governing Bodies, in reviewing the tobacco issue in 1998, consider urging Member States:

to seek greater executive and legislative commitment to address these problems;

to review and disseminate information on tobacco control policies adopted in countries such as Canada and the United States of America, and to determine their suitability for application both nationally and in tobacco control policies in the Region.

To request the Director to:

propose policies and directives governing PAHO's technical cooperation with Member States in order to promote strengthening of the leadership and response capability of the health sector on this issue;

inform the Member States about this resolution.

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CE120.R5 The Executive Committee,

Having examined the report of the Award Committee of the PAHO Award for Administration, 1997 (Document CE120/8, Add. I); and

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Procedure and Guidelines for conferring the PAHO Award for Administration as approved by the XVIII Pan American Sanitary Conference¹ (1970) and amended by the XXIV Pan American Sanitary Conference² (1994),

RESOLVES:

To note the decision of the Award Committee to confer the PAHO Award for Administration, 1997, on Dr. Eduardo Bernabé Ordaz Ducungé, of Cuba, for his pioneering efforts in the establishment of rehabilitation programs and the humanization of hospital care for persons suffering from chronic mental illness.

To transmit the report of the Award Committee of the PAHO Award for Administration, 1997 (Document CE120/8, Add. I), to the XL Meeting of the Directing Council.

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CE120.R6 The Executive Committee,

Having seen the report on the oral health of the population of the Americas (Document CE120/12),

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Directing Council the adoption of a resolution in the following terms:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen the report on the oral health of the population of the Americas (Document CD40_);

Considering the strategic and programmatic guidelines of the Pan American Health Organization for the period 1995-1998 and its regional oral health strategy;

Recognizing that oral health is a key aspect of general health conditions throughout the Region of the Americas, owing to its importance as part of the overall disease burden, the costs associated with its treatment, and the possibility of effective prevention measures; and

Recognizing that PAHO has cooperated with the countries of the Region in establishing conceptual and technical bases for the development of policies, infrastructures, and program capabilities in relation to national oral health programs,

RESOLVES:

1. To endorse Document CD40 describing the oral health situation in the Region and the proposed strategies for support to government efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of preventive oral health programs and to strengthen the organization and delivery of oral health services in the Region.

2. To urge the Member States to:

(a) promote the establishment and development of national programs for the prevention of oral and dental diseases, with emphasis on fluoridation via water, salt, or another vehicle as an effective and efficient way to reduce dental caries in the population;

(b) promote the establishment and strengthening of effective and sustainable national oral health services that are accessible to the neediest populations;

(c) strengthen the technical capabilities of the national and local institutions responsible for the oral health of the neediest population groups in their countries;

(d) promote measures for intersectoral cooperation among the respective countries to foster the proper development of their national oral health programs.

3. To request the Director to:

(a) support the establishment and coordination of strategic alliances to promote and facilitate the development of PAHO's regional strategy for oral health;

(b) encourage technical cooperation among countries in activities that promote oral health.

CE120.R7 The Executive Committee,

Having seen the report on the collection and use of core health data (Document CE120/11),

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Directing Council the adoption of a resolution in the following terms:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen the report on the collection and use of core health data (Document CD40);

Considering that information on and knowledge about the health and well-being of the population is a strategic input for policy-making and for the programming, surveillance, and evaluation of social responses in the field of health; and

Aware of the need to ensure the availability of quality information on the health situation and health services coverage in the Region of the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of Document CD40 and of the regional effort to consolidate an automated health information system that affords quick access to core data on the health situation of the countries of the Region.

2. To recommend that Member States:

(a) use a core body of health information for guidance in the development of policies and health programs and in the adjustment and evaluation thereof, and to continue reorienting the health services and strengthening surveillance systems in public health;

(b) reaffirm their commitment to the timely collection of data on the health and well-being of their populations, to ensure its validity and the coverage of all human groups, and to break down the information by geographical levels, sex, and population groups of interest for human health and development in the countries;

(c) make use of core health data as the principal source for the quantitative measurement and benchmarking of the achievement of nationally and internationally mandated health status goals.

3. To request the Director to:

(a) continue support to the development of the core health data initiative, as a key component of PAHO's mandate to provide Member States with regional health information of the highest possible quality and relevance;

(b) establish coordination mechanisms with other international organizations and agencies that request this information in order to achieve the greatest possible consistency of the data submitted by them.

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CE120.R8 The Executive Committee,

Having seen the report on adolescent health (Document CE120/13)

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Directing Council the adoption of a resolution in the following terms:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen the Director's report on adolescent health and development in the Americas and the Plan of Action for strengthening and developing plans and programs in this area (Document CD40);

Considering the decisions adopted by the World Summit for Children and the resolutions of the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization at the Forty-second World Health Assembly (WHA42.41) and the XXXV and XXXVI Meetings of the Directing Council (CD35.R16 and CD36.R18), respectively;

Recognizing the importance of adolescent health and development for the economic and social future of the countries of the Region;

Recognizing that the adolescent health situation has consequences for today's adolescents, in their adult life and in the generations to come;

Valuing the participation of young people and their contribution to the social, economic, and political progress of the Americas; and

Considering the support that PAHO has provided for the development of plans and programs and the cooperation of the international agencies, especially the W. K. Kellogg Foundation and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA),

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the conceptual framework and Plan of Action 1998-2001 on adolescent health and development in the Americas presented in Document CD40 .
2. To urge Member States to:
 - (a) advocate the inclusion of the topic of adolescence and youth on the political and public agenda;
 - (b) improve the capacity of the countries to meet the needs of adolescents by designing public policies for young people and training of human resources;
 - (c) strengthen networking and intersectoral actions involving universities, nongovernmental organizations, and the media;
 - (d) provide for the participation of young people in plans and programs, and encourage the active participation of adolescents in the promotion of their own health and that of their communities.
3. To recommend that the Director:
 - (a) support the development and dissemination of the conceptual framework of the Program on Adolescent Health in the Americas;
 - (b) collaborate in the development of human resources to attend to the multiple needs in health;
 - (c) strengthen and activate national, regional, and international networks that work with adolescents;
 - (d) promote operational research in this area.

CE120.R9 The Executive Committee,

Having seen the report on the nutritional situation in the Americas and the Plan of Action (Document CE120/14),

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Directing Council the adoption of a resolution in the following terms:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen the Director's report on the nutritional situation in the Americas and the Plan of Action (Document CD40);

Considering the decisions adopted at the World Summit for Children (1990) and the International Conference on Nutrition (1992);

Recognizing the importance of nutrition for the social and economic future of the countries of the Region;

Recognizing that the nutritional status of mothers and children has consequences for the adult life of all individuals and for the generations to come:

Valuing active participation by the population in the solution of nutritional problems; and

Considering the technical cooperation that PAHO and other international organizations have provided for the design of policies and the development of plans and programs,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the conceptual framework and Plan of Action of the Food and Nutrition Program for the Americas presented in Document CD40_.
2. To urge Member States to:

- (a) ratify the inclusion of nutrition in the political and public agenda;
- (b) promote improvement of the technical and managerial capability of the countries for the design of policies, plans, and programs through technical and managerial training of human resources, participation by the public and private sectors, the use of countries' installed capacity, the involvement of the mass media, and the broad participation of the population itself;
- (c) identify and carry out interventions using multidisciplinary personnel and intersectoral and interagency coordination, with emphasis on disease prevention and health promotion;
- (d) strengthen intersectoral work by involving nongovernmental organizations, the private sector, the mass media, and civil society.

3. To recommend that the Director:

- (a) support the development and dissemination of the conceptual framework of the Food and Nutrition Program;
- (b) advocate good nutrition for the population and especially for women, boys, and girls, within the context of health promotion in national and international entities;
- (c) strengthen and activate the national, regional, and international networks working in nutrition, using the most advanced information networks;
- (d) promote operational research, including the evaluation of food and nutrition plans and programs and their response to the changing needs of the population in this area.

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CE120.R10 The Executive Committee,

Having reviewed the document on the health of indigenous peoples (Document CE120/17),

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the Directing Council adopt a resolution along the following lines:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having examined the report on the health of indigenous peoples (Document CD40);

Recognizing the growing evidence of inequities in health status and access to basic health services for the estimated 43 million indigenous persons in the Region of the Americas; and

Considering the economic, geographic, and cultural barriers to the efficient and effective delivery of public health and personal health care services in isolated rural and marginal urban areas in most countries,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the report on progress in the implementation of Resolution CD37.R5, to reaffirm the commitment to the goals of the Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, and to approve the activities proposed in Document CD40_.
2. To urge the Member States, in the process of the implementation of health sector reform, to be persistent in efforts to detect, monitor and reverse inequities in health status and access to basic health services for vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples.
3. To call to the attention of Member States that renewal of the goal of health for all requires that sustainable solutions are found to address the economic, geographic, and cultural barriers to adequate care for vulnerable groups.
4. To request the Director to continue his efforts to implement the Health of Indigenous Peoples Initiative.

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CE120.R11 The Executive Committee,

Having reviewed Document CE120/18, which addresses the increasing dominance of noncommunicable diseases in the overall burden of disease in Latin America and the Caribbean, the implications for the health of populations

and on health services, and the need for capacity building in response to the trends as projected into the 21st century;

Noting that most noncommunicable diseases are preventable (or at least postponable), many are reversible, and many are amenable to secondary prevention to reduce complications; and

Recognizing that the objectives of the PAHO Noncommunicable Disease Program include strengthening the capacity of the Organization to support specific chronic disease prevention and control initiatives in Member States, and the evidence of effective program performance to date,

RESOLVES:

To urge Member States, in responding to the increasing burden of noncommunicable diseases in the context of health service reforms, to include the following considerations in their priority setting and decision making:

assessment of disease burden, health service capacity and design characteristics, and their relevance to the development of interventions;

international evidence regarding the potential effectiveness of interventions and evaluation of their effectiveness in the local context;

economic feasibility and expected results of such interventions;

integrated approaches which combine relevant elements of health promotion, clinical preventive medicine, and quality of care within specific interventions.

To recommend to the Director that PAHO continue to strengthen its technical support for specific noncommunicable disease prevention and control initiatives in Member States.

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CE120.R12 The Executive Committee,

Having reviewed Document CE120/25, which reports on actions taken by the Secretariat in relation to the approved projects financed by the PAHO Building Fund and describes additional project requirements,

RESOLVES:

To approve the additional maintenance projects for the Brazil building for an estimated cost of US\$ 212,000.

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CE120.R13 The Executive Committee,

Having considered the amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau submitted by the Director in the Annex to Document CE120/24;

Recognizing the need for uniformity of conditions of employment of PASB and WHO staff; and

Bearing in mind the provisions of Staff Rule 020,

RESOLVES:

To confirm the amendments to the Staff Rules of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau submitted by the Director in the Annex to Document CE120/24, with effect from 1 January 1997, concerning the primary and secondary dependents= allowances for professional and higher categories of staff, the non-removal element of the mobility and hardship allowance, the salary scale applicable to staff in the professional category and directors= posts, and the rates of staff assessment for the professional and higher-graded staff.

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CE120.R14 The Executive Committee,

Considering the revision made to the base/floor salary scale for the professional and higher categories, effective 1 January 1997;

Taking into account the recommendation of the Ninety-ninth Session of the WHO Executive Board to the Fiftieth World Health Assembly related to the remuneration of the Assistant Directors General and Regional Directors, the Deputy Director-General, and the Director-General; and

Bearing in mind Staff Regulation 3.1 of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and Resolution CD20.R20 of the XX Meeting of the Directing Council,

RESOLVES:

Effective 1 January 1997 to:

establish the annual net salary of the Deputy Director at US\$ 90,855 at dependency rate and \$82,245 at single rate;

establish the annual net salary of the Assistant Director at \$89,855 at dependency rate and \$81,245 at single rate.

To recommend to the XL Directing Council that it establish the annual net salary of the Director at \$99,059 at dependency rate and \$89,069 at single rate, effective 1 January 1997.

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CE120.R15 The Executive Committee,

Having studied the report (Document CE120/9, Add. I) of the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations; and

Bearing in mind the Principles Governing Relations between the Pan American Health Organization and Nongovernmental Organizations (1995),

RESOLVES:

To authorize the establishment of official relations with the United States Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc. (USPC).

To request USPC to continue with the identification, together with PAHO, of specific lines of work at the regional level and with the countries of the Region as soon as possible.

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CE120.R16 The Executive Committee,

Having examined the provisional agenda (Document CD40/1) prepared by the Director for the XL Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO, XLIX Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, presented as Annex to Document CE120/4; and

Bearing in mind the provisions of Article 12.C of the Constitution of the Pan American Health Organization and Rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council,

RESOLVES:

To approve the provisional agenda (Document CD40/1) prepared by the Director for the XL Meeting of the Directing Council of PAHO, XLIX Meeting of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas.

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CE120.R17 The Executive Committee,

Considering it advisable that the Rules of Procedure of the PAHO Governing Bodies be brought in line with current practice and that similar rules for each body be consistent;

Aware that, in the past, some rules have lent themselves to misinterpretation;

Believing that the language of the rules should be gender-neutral;

Having considered the report of the working party and the amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, the Directing Council, and the Pan American Sanitary Conference, as proposed in Annexes A, B, and C of Document CE120/5, Rev. 1, Add. I; and

Bearing in mind the provisions of Rule 40 of the present Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee,

RESOLVES:

To thank the working party for its comprehensive review of the Rules of Procedure.

To adopt the amended Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee as they appear in Annex A of Document CE120/5, Rev. 1, Add. I.

To recommend that the Directing Council adopt the amended Rules of Procedure as they appear in Annex B of Document CE120/5, Rev. 1, Add. I.

To recommend that the Pan American Sanitary Conference adopt the amended Rules of Procedure as they appear in Annex C of Document CE120/5, Rev. 1, Add. I.

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CE120.R18 The Executive Committee,

Having examined the report on vaccines and immunization (Document CE120/20),

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Directing Council the adoption of a resolution along the following lines:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having examined the report of the Director (Document CD40) on the progress made by the Special Program for Vaccines and Immunization and on the regional initiative calling for the elimination of measles in the Americas by the year 2000;

Recognizing the continued commitment of Member States to assigning high priority to immunization programs and their efforts to introduce new vaccines into the national vaccination schedule;

Noting with satisfaction that Member States who have followed PAHO=s recommended three-step vaccination strategy against measles are effectively protecting children in the 1-15- year age range, but expressing concern that despite these advances the virus is still circulating in some parts of the Region and is affecting susceptible populations;

Concerned about the declining attention to the four acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) surveillance indicators, which are used to detect possible circulation of poliovirus;

Recognizing that the effectiveness of immunization strategies depend on the utilization of vaccines of assured quality; and

Recognizing the tremendous advances in vaccine research and development worldwide that will lead to important new vaccines,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge Member States to:

(a) allocate the necessary financial and human resources to support routine immunization programs in the Region;

(b) maintain the Region of the Americas polio free, with appropriate surveillance of acute flaccid paralysis;

(c) consider the changes in the epidemiology of measles, review their current vaccination strategies for measles accordingly, and determine the need for a follow-up campaign among all children 1-4 years of age;

(d) coordinate the mobilization of resources from the public and private sectors in support of overall immunization programs, through inter-agency coordinating committees;

(e) strengthen the vaccine quality control system at the national and regional level, through the continued support of the Regional Network of Vaccine Quality Control Laboratories and national control authorities;

(f) organize national advisory groups for vaccines and immunization to strengthen and/or coordinate activities of all institutions and laboratories involved in vaccine research, development, production and quality control;

(g) strengthen surveillance in preparation for the introduction of new vaccines (such as Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), hepatitis B, and measlesmumpsrubella (MMR)), to accurately determine disease burden and develop appropriate vaccination strategy;

(h) provide resources and participate actively in vaccine research and development, in order to facilitate the availability of new vaccines of regional importance.

2. Request the Director to:

(a) continue his efforts to secure funds for the implementation of the Plan of Action for Measles Elimination in the Americas by the year 2000;

(b) coordinate activities related to research, development, production, and quality control of vaccines in the Region;

(c) promote actions by the Organization and the countries to make the highest quality vaccines accessible to their peoples at the lowest possible cost.

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CE120.R19 The Executive Committee,

Having examined the report on dengue, dengue hemorrhagic fever, and yellow fever (Document CE120/21),

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the Directing Council adopt a resolution along the following lines:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen the report on dengue, dengue hemorrhagic fever, and yellow fever (Document CD40);

Considering the marked increase in the magnitude of the dengue and dengue hemorrhagic fever problem in the Region of the Americas, and the serious risk of yellow fever epidemics;

Recognizing the public health, social, and economic impact of these diseases in this Hemisphere; and

Recognizing the need for cost-effective, sustainable programs,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge Member States to:

(a) approve the Hemispheric Plan for combating *Aedes aegypti* prepared by a Task Force during its meeting in Caracas in April 1997, and adapt the Plan to the prevailing national conditions, taking into account Dengue and Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever in the Americas: Guidelines for Prevention and Control (1994);

(b) identify human and financial resources necessary for the implementation of the Plan, while recognizing the importance of mobilizing and empowering communities to create clean and safe environments;

(c) include yellow fever vaccine in their national immunization programs in all areas at risk of transmission of the disease.

2. To request the Director to:

(a) collaborate with Member States in the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan and related strategies, as resources permit;

(b) promote mechanisms of communication and collaboration among Member States to optimize the implementation of the Plan;

(c) cooperate with Member States in seeking external funds in support of national activities to implement the Plan.

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CE120.R20 The Executive Committee,

Having seen the report on mental health (Document CE120/19),

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Directing Council the adoption of a resolution in the following terms:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen the report on mental health (Document CD40);

Taking into account that the mental health care needs of the population are growing as a result of the demographic changes under way in the Region of the Americas and the widening scope of the field of mental health;

Aware of the existence of technologies that make it possible to control psychiatric disorders; and

Considering that actions for the promotion of mental health and the psychosocial development of children complement those promoted by the World Summit for Children,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Member States to:

(a) formulate and implement national mental health programs articulated with health programs in general;

(b) intensify support for efforts to reorient mental health services to ensure that community care will be provided, in keeping with the initiative for the restructuring of psychiatric care described in Document CD40 ;

(c) actively promote and support the inclusion of mental health services in every health insurance or payment plan and every health care services program;

(d) develop programs for the treatment of affective disorders, epilepsies, and psychoses;

(e) strengthen or carry out actions for the promotion of mental health and the psychosocial development of children, with special emphasis on the early years;

(f) support training for the managers of mental health programs in the schools of public health;

(g) make efforts to improve the legislation to protect the human rights of psychiatric patients.

2. To request the Director to:

(a) continue technical cooperation with the countries and intensify it, as financial resources permit;

(b) continue supporting the inclusion of mental health topics in all health forums and activities, and in joint activities with other agencies of the inter-American system;

(c) express the Organization's appreciation for the generous collaboration being provided by European regions and communities, and its thanks to the WHO Collaborating Centers in the Region;

(d) support programs to train leaders specializing in mental health.

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CE120.R21 The Executive Committee,

Having seen the report on acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the Americas (Document CE120/15 and Add. I),

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Directing Council the adoption of a resolution in the following terms:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen the report on acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the Americas (Document CD40);

Considering that sexually transmitted diseases increase the risk of transmission of HIV, and that HIV/AIDS is basically a sexually transmitted disease and an emerging epidemic that is affecting adolescents and young adults in the Region; and

Taking into account the growing number of people living with HIV/AIDS that will require appropriate, cost-effective, and humane medical care and social services,

RESOLVES:

1. To endorse the strategies and recommendations proposed in the aforementioned

document, with a view to strengthening the managerial capacity of the national programs, improving epidemiological surveillance, identifying optimal prevention practices, validating appropriate models for the care of HIV/AIDS, and stepping up specific activities for the control of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in the Region.

2. To urge the Member States, working with PAHO and UNAIDS, to:

(a) actively take the lead in coordinating national efforts and to promote the broad intersectoral response for the prevention of HIV/AIDS advocated by PAHOWHO and UNAIDS;

(b) strengthen health sector activities in STD control, focusing specifically on epidemiological surveillance and care of the most common STDs with the greatest impact on women and adolescents;

(c) redouble efforts to mobilize resources at the national level and encourage horizontal cooperation among countries in order to strengthen the technical capabilities of the national programs for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and STDs at the subregional level.

3. To request the Director to:

(a) maintain the Region's technical and scientific capabilities and increase PAHO interprogram collaboration for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and STDs, and support for UNAIDS;

(b) inform the Governing Bodies, whenever necessary, of the scientific, epidemiological, political, and programming changes that require their attention;

(c) support the countries' efforts to make the new treatments more accessible to all people living with HIV/AIDS in the Americas;

(d) collaborate with the countries to make the mass communication efforts of the countries to control the spread of HIV/AIDS increasingly effective.

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CE120.R22 The Executive Committee,

Having reviewed the report on the analysis of the Program on Health and Environment (Document CE120/22) and aware of the growing importance of this programmatic area to the Member States; and

Noting with satisfaction the evolution of the Organization's Program on Health and Environment in response to the mandates stemming from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) as well as from a series of hemispheric meetings of heads of State and government,

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Directing Council the adoption of a resolution along the following lines:

THE XL MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having reviewed the report (Document CD40) on the analysis of the Program on Health and Environment,

RESOLVES:

1. To call upon Member States to continue efforts to assume a strong leadership role in the management of environment-based health problems.
2. To accept the Director=s proposal for refocusing the operational approach of the Program on Health and Environment.
3. To request the Director to:
 - (a) continue negotiations with the Government of Mexico in order to proceed with the legal and administrative measures that may be required to formalize the disestablishment of the Pan American Center for Human Ecology and Health (ECO) by 31 December 1997;
 - (b) support the Government of Mexico in the establishment of a national center of environmental health;
 - (c) in view of the disestablishment of ECO, to make appropriate modifications in the program of work of the Center for Sanitary Engineering and Environmental Sciences (CEPIS), with special reference to training, particularly in the area of environmental epidemiology, in consultation with the Government of Peru;

(d) ensure, in the respective measures, that the countries have easy access to the services of CEPIS and that the services be comprehensive and meet the countries' needs in environmental health.

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Note:

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