



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



41st DIRECTING COUNCIL

51st SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

San Juan, Puerto Rico, 27 September-1 October 1999

RESOLUTION

CD41.R13

WORKERS' HEALTH

THE 41ST DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen the Director's report on workers' health in the Region of the Americas (Document CD41/15);

Recalling the specific mandates of the Governing Bodies of PAHO on workers' health, especially Resolution CSP23.R14 of the 23rd Pan American Sanitary Conference (1990), in which the Conference urges the Member States to increase the development of different institutional workers' health care arrangements in order to promote the attainment of universal coverage;

Considering that Resolution WHA49.12 of the World Health Assembly endorses the WHO Global Strategy on Occupational Health for All, clearly defines the principal objectives of action, and requests the Director-General of WHO to invite the organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the International Labor Organization, and nongovernmental and national organizations, to cooperate with WHO in this area;

Aware of the existence of major social, economic, and sanitary inequities that affect workers' health, especially in the informal sector; and

Recognizing that workers' health and healthy work environments are essential for attaining the individual and community health and well-being fundamental to the sustainable development of the Member States,

RESOLVES

1. To urge Member States to include in their national health plans, as appropriate, the Regional Plan on Workers' Health contained in Document CD41/15, which proposes specific programmatic lines for the action of the Member States and international cooperation.

2. To urge the ministers of health to take the initiative to promote cooperation among the national actors involved in the field of workers' health and related areas in order to define and act together in the pursuit of common objectives that will be incorporated into national workers' health plans, national health plans, and development plans, and that will orient international cooperation.

3. To urge the international organizations and bilateral agencies, as well as nongovernmental organizations, to provide technical and financial support to the Member States and cooperate in the execution of activities, adopting the integrated approach proposed in the Regional Plan.

4. To request that the Director:

(a) promote and support the dissemination and implementation of the integrated approach to action proposed in the Regional Plan on Workers' Health;

(b) pay special attention to forging institutional partnerships at the national and international level, including the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources to carry out intersectoral activities that will facilitate the development and consolidation of prevention activities, within the framework of an integrated preventive approach;

(c) continue to support the ministers of health in their efforts to improve workers' health;

(d) continue to promote and support the development of the network of PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centers and scientific institutions, so that they contribute to the development of technical, scientific, and administrative capacity in the institutions and programs operating in the field of workers' health;

(e) promote and support cooperation among countries in the field of workers' health, particularly operations research on human resources development.

(Eighth meeting, 30 September 1999)