



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



35th DIRECTING COUNCIL
42nd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 23-28 September 1991

RESOLUTION

CD35.R6

WOMEN, HEALTH, AND DEVELOPMENT

THE 35th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having considered the Final Report of the Special Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development (Document CD35/12);

Aware of the importance of fully involving professional women in the Secretariat in attaining the goals of the Organization and in decision-making within the Organization, and in view of the inadequate progress made in these areas, as indicated in part in the Report on the Situation of Women in the Secretariat (Document SMSD11/9); and

Taking into account the resolutions adopted previously by the Governing Bodies of PAHO on Women, Health, and Development, and particularly Resolutions CSP22.R12 of the XXII Pan American Sanitary Conference and CD32.R9, CD33.R6, and CD34.R5 of the XXXII, XXXIII, and XXXIV Meetings of the Directing Council, respectively,

RESOLVES

1. To request the Member Governments to:

a) Strengthen their strategies and plans of action for improving the quality of education: the sociocultural, economic, and legal situation; and the living and health conditions of women by

taking a comprehensive, decentralized approach which addresses the health and social needs of all women:

- b) Foster the promotion and recruitment of women to the managerial levels of the health sector;
- c) Devise and adopt monitoring and evaluation methods that will document the progress made in implementation of the strategies and plans of action referred to in the foregoing paragraph;
- d) Designate Focal Points on Women, Health, and Development if they have not yet done so, with access to the highest decision-making levels, and ensure that the Focal Points in all the countries of the Region have the opportunities for training, the information, and the resources needed for the performance of their functions;
- e) Establish and tighten bonds of collaboration between the agencies responsible for health and those responsible for women's affairs, so that their programs will use resources efficiently and avoid duplication of efforts;
- f) Establish and tighten bonds of collaboration between the agencies responsible for health and women and nongovernmental organizations, universities, and research centers working for the benefit and health of women, in the formulation and implementation of joint projects;
- g) Facilitate the admission of the spouses of international civil servants to their labor markets;
- h) Participate actively in the Technical Discussions on Women, Health, and Development to be conducted at the next World Health Assembly in May 1992;
- i) Strengthen the arrangements for social participation by women in promoting the health of communities, enterprises, and education centers.

2. To congratulate the Director for the accomplishments, to date, of the Program on Women, Health, and Development, and particularly for its technical cooperation with the countries in the Region, and for his support of the development of that program as an integral activity of the Organization.

3. To recommend to the Director that he continue to strengthen the Organization's Program on Women, Health, and Development, and in particular that he:

- a) Promote the establishment of mechanisms for coordination and collaboration between the Program on Women, Health, and Development and the Organization's other programs so that program activities address, as a priority, the needs and concerns of women in the Region;
- b) Intensify the actions of the Program on Women, Health, and Development, and the identification and development of projects for technical cooperation at the national level and among countries (TCAC);
- c) Pursue vigorously increased recruitment, hiring, and promotion of women into positions of authority in the Organization and in the health and social agencies within the Member States, and

that he review the Organization's recruitment and hiring criteria, rules, and guidelines to assure that there are no discriminatory practices; and

d) Take a leadership role, in consultation with other international agencies and organizations and with Member States, to find solutions to the employment problems of the spouses of international civil servants.

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