



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



36th DIRECTING COUNCIL

43rd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 21-25 September 1992

RESOLUTION

CD36.R15

PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE ELIMINATION OF LEPROSY FROM THE AMERICAS

THE 36th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen Document CD36/14, "Plan of Action for the Elimination of Leprosy from the Americas," and considering the mandate¹ of the Forty-fourth World Health Assembly with regard to this subject; and

Recognizing that several Member Countries are close to attaining the target for the year 2000 in advance of that date, and that epidemiological conditions in the various groups of countries and the level of development of their health systems make it feasible to carry out diagnosis, treatment, and surveillance operations,

RESOLVES

1. To approve the Plan of Action for the Elimination of Leprosy as a public health problem in the Americas presented in Document CD36/14.
2. To urge the Member Governments:
 - a) To assign political priority to the execution of the regional Plan of Action for the Elimination of Leprosy in all the countries in the Hemisphere where the disease is endemic;
 - b) To encourage the framing and execution of national plans for elimination of the disease;

c) To promote collaboration and articulation between the various levels of public administration and the private sector;

d) To ensure that the planning and application of methodologies for timely diagnosis, multidrug therapy, and surveillance are based on sufficient epidemiological information so that the social groups affected by leprosy may be stratified and the risk factors involved may be analyzed in order to take the necessary steps for elimination of the disease;

e) To commit the resources needed for the execution of national plans, and especially for the strengthening of diagnostic and surveillance systems;

f) To incorporate into local health systems activities for the elimination and prevention of leprosy and to promote social participation and local programming and administration so that measures may be carried out comprehensively, synergistically, and without interruption through use of all the human, institutional, and financial resources (local and national) available.

3. To request the Director, within available resources:

a) To promote technical cooperation for the strengthening of epidemiological, diagnostic, information, and surveillance services, the implementation of multidrug therapy, the follow-up of treated patients, and the treatment of disabilities;

b) To support development of the management and administration of programs and the application of epidemiological knowledge to local situations and the stratification process;

c) To promote the mobilization of institutional, human, and financial resources for the development and use of the health infrastructures required to execute the Plan of Action for the Elimination of Leprosy;

d) To encourage biomedical, epidemiological, social, and health services research for the development of more effective intervention measures.

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