



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



40th DIRECTING COUNCIL
49th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 22 - 26 September 1997

RESOLUTION

CD40.R10

COLLECTION AND USE OF CORE HEALTH DATA

THE 40th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having seen the report on the collection and use of core health data (Document CD40/19);
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 CD40/19 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.

September 1997 OD 285