

*executive committee of
the directing council*

*working party of
the regional committee*



**PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**



**WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**

**116th Meeting
Washington, D.C.
June 1995**

Provisional Agenda Item 4.11

**CE116/18 (Eng.)
8 May 1995
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH**

**REPORT OF THE IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING, AT THE
MINISTERIAL LEVEL, ON ANIMAL HEALTH**

The IX Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health (IX RIMSA) was held at the Headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), in Washington, D.C., United States of America, from 25 to 27 April 1995, as convened by the Director of PAHO in compliance with Resolution VIII, adopted by the Directing Council of the Organization in its XXVII Meeting (CD27.R8).

The following Officers of the Meeting were elected unanimously: President, Dr. Ramón Villeda Bermúdez, Minister of Natural Resources, Honduras; Vice Presidents, Dr. Arsenio J. Vasconcellos Porta, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, Paraguay; Mr. Luis Toral, Secretary of Agriculture, the Dominican Republic; and Rapporteur, Dr. Keith Campbell, Senior Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Bahamas.

The Provisional President of the Meeting, Mr. José Raúl Allegret, Minister of Agriculture of Venezuela, presided over the opening session. Mrs. Patricia Jensen, Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Dr. George A. O. Alleyne, Director of the Pan American Health Organization, offered words of welcome.

Delegates from 32 Member States and two Participating Governments attended the Meeting. Among the delegates, 21 Ministers and 12 Vice Ministers of Agriculture or Health attended, as well as two ambassadors, who served as Chief of their respective delegations. Representatives from the international technical and financial cooperation agencies participated as Observers, as did the private sector, represented by livestock associations, the food industry, schools of veterinary medicine, nongovernmental

organizations, and WHO Collaborating Centers. Observers from the Governments of Australia, India, and the Philippines were also in attendance.

The objective of the Meeting was to strengthen areas of mutual interest between the agriculture and health sectors. In accordance with the strategic approaches of PAHO's Veterinary Public Health Program, the progress of the regional programs that the countries are implementing with PAHO cooperation was presented for analysis and discussion; among these are the programs for the elimination of rabies, food protection, and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and bovine tuberculosis. The program budgets of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA) and the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses (INPPAZ) for the bienniums 1996-1997 and 1998-1999 were presented and analyzed. The delegates to the Meeting unanimously recommended the approval of the budgets of both centers to the Governing Bodies of the Organization.

Within the framework of the Strategic and Programmatic Orientations of the Organization and the mandates from the Governing Bodies of PAHO, two panels were held. The first was on "The Production and Marketing of Food and the Protection of Public Health," with presentations on The Economic and Social Implications of the Production and Marketing of Food; The Public Health Implications of the Production and Marketing of Food; The World Trade Organization in the International Food Market; and Integration of Food Protection Services: The Role of the Public and Private Sectors and the Community. The second panel was on "The Intersectoral Approach in Agriculture and Health: Policies on Agricultural and Livestock Development, Environmental Protection, and Health", with presentations on Policies for Promoting Stronger Links between Agriculture, Livestock Production, Environmental Protection, and Health; Agriculture and Health: Interdependent in a Systems Approach to Agriculture; Social Sector Participation in the Protection of the Agricultural and Livestock Ecosystems; and Organization of Producers and their Participation in the Productive and Equitable Development of the Agricultural and Livestock Sector. Two special conferences were also given: "Plague: Regional Situation and Intersectoral Control Methods," and "Taeniasis/Cysticercosis: Sociocultural and Economic Determinants."

The Meeting adopted eight resolutions on the following matters: Regional Veterinary Public Health Program; Program and Budget of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses, 1996-1997 and 1998-1999; Program Budget of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, 1996-1997 and 1998-1999; Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-mouth Disease (COHEFA); Condolences to the Government of the United States of America; Quality Assurance and Safety in Food Production and Marketing; Livestock Development, Protection of the Environment, and Health; and Zoonoses. To summarize the resolutions, the Governments were requested to promote greater intersectoral action to guarantee food safety, protect the environment,

and improve the health conditions in agricultural areas. In addition, PAHO was requested to continue its cooperation in the areas of food protection and zoonoses through the Veterinary Public Health Program and to promote intersectoral action and coordination with international agencies. These resolutions are included in the enclosed Final Report.

Annex



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION

**IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING, AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL,
ON ANIMAL HEALTH**

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Washington, D.C., USA, 25 - 27 April 1995

RIMSA9/FR (Eng.)

27 April 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH-SPANISH

FINAL REPORT

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FINAL REPORT

The IX Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health (RIMSA IX) was held at the Headquarters of the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, D.C., United States of America, from 25 to 27 April 1995, as convened by the Director of the Pan American Health Organization in compliance with Resolution CD27.R8 approved by the Directing Council of PAHO in its XXVII Meeting.

OFFICERS

The following officers of the Meeting were elected unanimously:

President: Dr. Ramón Villeda Bermúdez
Minister of Natural Resources
Honduras

Vice Presidents: Dr. Arsenio J. Vasconcellos Porta
Minister of Agriculture and Livestock
Paraguay

Mr. Luis Toral
Secretary of Agriculture
Dominican Republic

Rapporteur: Dr. Keith Campbell
Senior Veterinary Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Bahamas

Dr. George A. O. Alleyne, Director of the Pan American Health Organization, served as Secretary *ex officio*, and Dr. Primo Arámbulo III, Coordinator of the Veterinary Public Health Program of PAHO, as Technical Secretary of RIMSA IX.

PARTICIPANTS

Member States

The following Member States were represented in the Meeting: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Observers

Representatives of the Governments of India and the Philippines and from the following organizations attended the Meeting as observers: American Association of Food Hygiene Veterinarians; American Museum of Natural History; American Public Health Association; American Veterinary Medical Association; Asociación de Ganaderos del Peru; Asociación Rural del Paraguay; Asociación Rural y Federación Rural del Uruguay; Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges; Comisión Sanitaria de la Sociedad Rural Argentina; Caribbean Community (CARICOM); Confederação Nacional da Agricultura do Brasil; Confederación de Ganaderos de Bolivia; Confederación Interamericana de Ganaderos y Agricultores; Confederación Latinoamericana de Bioquímica Clínica; Conselho Nacional de Pecuária de Corte; Consejo Regional de Cooperación Agrícola en Centroamerica, México y la República Dominicana; Federación de Ganaderos de Costa Rica; Fondo Ganadero de Arequipa, Peru, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); Food Technology Service; Fundação de Desenvolvimento do Pecuária (FUNDEPEC), Brazil; Fundación Merieux; Inter-American Development Bank; Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources; Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA); International Office of Epizootics; Laboratorio de Investigación y Diagnóstico Veterinario (LIDIVET) Bolivia; Louisiana State University; Microbiological Associates, Inc.; National Cattlemen's Association; National Milk Producers Federation; New York University; North Carolina State University; Programa de Apoyo Regional en Sanidad Agropecuaria-Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (PARSA-OIRSA); Sociedad Rural Argentina; Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences; Tuskegee University; Universidad Central de Quito; University of Minnesota; University of Texas; University of the West Indies; U.S. Army Veterinary Corps; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; World Bank; World Society for the Protection of Animals; and World Trade Organization.

SESSIONS

RIMSA IX held an inaugural session, five plenary sessions, and a closing session.

Inaugural Session

The Provisional President, Mr. José Raúl Allegret, Minister of Agriculture of Venezuela, declared RIMSA IX officially open and invited Ms. Patricia Jensen, Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, U.S. Department of Agriculture, to make some welcoming remarks on behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture of the host country. Following these remarks, Dr. George A. O. Alleyne, Director of the Pan American Health Organization, addressed the assembly.

The Inaugural Session closed with the election of the President, the two Vicepresidents, and the Rapporteur.

First Plenary Session

The provisional agenda and provisional program of sessions were approved without modifications.

During this first plenary session the following items were discussed: the Report of the Veterinary Public Health Program: Compliance with the Strategic Orientations and Program Priorities of the Pan American Health Organization, 1991-1994, presented by Dr. Primo Arámbulo III, PAHO; Analysis of the Proposed Program Budget of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses for 1996-1997 and 1998-1999, presented by Dr. Raúl Londoño, PAHO; and the Report of the International Coordination Council of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses on the I and II Regular Meetings of the Council, presented by Mr. Edgar Talavera, Secretary of Agriculture and Livestock of Bolivia.

Second Plenary Session

In the second plenary session the following items were presented: Analysis of the Proposed Program Budget of the Pan American Foot-and Mouth Disease Center for 1996-1997 and 1998-1999, by Dr. Vicente M. Astudillo, PAHO; Report on the V Regular Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Food-and-Mouth Disease, by the Presidente of COHEFA V, by Mr. Carlos Gasparri, Minister of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries of Uruguay; Report of the Meeting of the Working Group on the Prevention, Control, and Eradication of Brucellosis in Latin American and the Caribbean, by Dr. Martin E. Hugh-Jones, Director of the WHO Collaborating Center, Louisiana State University, USA; and the Report of the Meeting of the Scientific

Working Group on Advances in the Prevention, Control, and Treatment of Hydatidosis, by Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior.

Third Plenary Session

The third plenary session was devoted to the Panel on the Production and Marketing of Food and the Protection of Public Health. Dr. Arsenio J. Vasconcellos Porta, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Paraguay, presented the item on Economic and Social Implications of the Production and Marketing of Food; Hon. Allan Guye, Minister of Health and Social Security of Dominica, presented the Public Health Implications of the Production and Marketing of Food; Mr. Anwarul Hoda, Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization, made the presentation on the World Trade Organization in the International Food Market; and Dr. Héctor Campos López, Director-General of Animal Health and Rural Development of Mexico, on behalf of Mr. Romérico Arroyo Marroquín, Undersecretary for Livestock, Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development of Mexico, presented the item on Integration of the Food Protection Services: The Role of the Public and Private Sectors and the Community.

Fourth Plenary Session

The fourth plenary session was devoted to the Panel on the Intersectoral Approach in Agriculture and Health: Policies on Agricultural and Livestock Development, Environmental Protection, and Health. Mr. Michel J. Petit, Director of Agricultural Research, World Bank, presented the item on Policies for Promoting Stronger Links between Agriculture, Livestock Production, Environmental Protection, and Health; Mr. Carlos Aquino González, Director-General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA), presented the item on Agriculture and Health: Interdependent in a Systems Approach to Agriculture; Dr. Carlos Walter, Minister of Health of Venezuela, presented the item on Social Sector Participation in the Protection of the Agricultural and Livestock Ecosystems; and the item on Organization of Producers and their Participation in the Productive and Equitable Development of the Agricultural and Livestock Sector was presented by Mr. Carlos Gasparri, Minister of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries of Uruguay.

Before closing the session, it was agreed that a communication would be addressed to the President of Argentina congratulating him on the completion that day of one year free from foot-and-mouth disease in his country.

Fifth Plenary Session

In the fifth plenary session, there were two special conferences: "Plague: Regional Situation and Intersectoral Control Methods," by Dr. Alejandro Aguinaga Recuenco, Vice Minister of Health of Peru; and "Teniasis/Cysticercosis: Sociocultural and Economic Determinants," by Dr. Enrique E. Duarte, Vice Minister of Public Health and Social Assistance of Guatemala.

Other Matters

The Representative of the United States of America, on behalf of the people of his country, thanked participants for their condolences on the tragedy in Oklahoma City, which they had formally registered in Resolution V.

The plenary endorsed the proposal of the Representative of Barbados to request the Secretariat to transmit the appreciation of RIMSA to the Director Emeritus of PAHO, Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo, and its warmest congratulations to the new Director, Dr. George A. O. Alleyne.

The Representatives of Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay proposed that, in view of its importance, the subject of food protection be incorporated into the name of the RIMSA meeting.

Closing Session

The Final Report of RIMSA IX was presented by the Rapporteur during this session. In closing, the Meeting was addressed by Dr. David Brandling-Bennett, Deputy Director of PAHO, on behalf of the Director, and by the President of RIMSA IX, Dr. Ramón Villeda Bermúdez, Minister of Natural Resources of Honduras.

The President declared the Meeting closed.

RESOLUTIONS

RIMSA IX adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION I

REGIONAL VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

THE IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Having seen the report of the Veterinary Public Health Program on compliance with the Strategic Orientations and Program Priorities of the Pan American Health Organization, 1991-1994 (Document RIMSA9/4);

Recognizing the gains made under the regional programs of food protection, elimination of rabies, and eradication of bovine tuberculosis and foot-and-mouth disease;

Considering that the prospective study of veterinary public health education begun jointly in 1992 by the schools of veterinary medicine of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Pan American Health Organization has been a mechanism for the technical and scientific strengthening of government animal health and veterinary public health services;

Convinced that sanitary protection and safety of food call for ongoing intersectoral action and that past experience attests to their development under the veterinary public health function;

Bearing in mind the process of transformation of the sectors for the reduction of public expenditure and seeing the need to maintain the responsibility of government for some activities relating to food protection and the prevention, control, and eradication of animal diseases of socioeconomic and public health importance; and

Considering the new Strategic and Programmatic Orientations for the Pan American Health Organization, 1995-1998, approved by the XXIV Pan American Sanitary Conference held in September 1994 in Resolution CSP24.R4, which states the priority assigned to food protection and the elimination and eradication of diseases,

RESOLVES:

1. To convey to the Director of PAHO its approval of the progress report of the Veterinary Public Health Program on compliance with the Strategic Orientations and Program Priorities of PAHO, 1991-1994.

2. To urge the Member States of PAHO to continue their regional commitments for food protection under the plan of action 1995-1998, the elimination of canine rabies, and the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and bovine tuberculosis.
3. To request the Director:
 - (a) To continue giving priority to technical cooperation for consolidation of the aforementioned regional veterinary public health programs.
 - (b) To support the transformation and modernization of the agriculture and health sectors, taking account of the ineluctable functions of government and the orderly transfer of functions to the private sector.
 - (c) To continue the technical cooperation being provided in food protection and the elimination of zoonoses and foot-and-mouth disease under the Veterinary Public Health Program, to strengthen intersectoral articulation, and to ensure a comprehensive approach to the attainment of the goals of the regional programs.

*(Adopted at the third plenary session,
26 April 1995)*

RESOLUTION II

PROGRAM AND BUDGET OF THE PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FOOD PROTECTION AND ZOOSES, 1996-1997 AND 1998-1999

THE IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Considering the activities programmed for the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses (INPPAZ) (Document RIMSA9/7);

Recognizing the initial development accomplished by the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses in accordance with Resolution CD36.R5 of the XXXVI Meeting of the Directing Council of the Organization and Resolution CD37.R12 of the XXXVII Meeting of that Council, held in September 1992 and 1993, respectively;

Considering the recommendations of the II Meeting of the International Coordination Council and the I Meeting of the Institute's Technical Scientific Committee, held in March 1994;

Noting the social and economic impact of foodborne diseases and the rejection of foods in trade because of the presence of residues in them (Documents RIMSA9/INF/21 and RIMSA9/INF/28);

Taking into account the importance for the countries of incorporating and adapting procedures and methodological instruments, such as risk analysis and critical control points (HACCP), which contribute to the improved effectiveness and efficiency of resources for the inspection and sanitary quality control of foods; and

Aware of the need for the continued technical cooperation of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses in matters of the sanitary protection of foods and the prevention and control of zoonoses,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its thanks to the Government of the Argentine Republic for its financial support to the Institute's activities.
2. To recommend to the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) that they approve the program budget of the Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses for the 1996-1997 biennium in the amount of US\$ 8,518,800,

of which \$4,300,000 is the contribution of the Government of the Argentine Republic and \$4,218,800 that of PAHO; and for the 1998-1999 biennium in the amount of \$9,326,500, of which \$4,730,000 is the contribution of the Government of the Argentine Republic and \$4,596,500 that of PAHO.

3. To thank the Member Governments of Colombia and Paraguay for their contributions to the Institute, and to urge the other countries to join in this kind of collaboration so that INPPAZ may continue and expand its technical cooperation throughout the Region.

4. To request the Government of the Argentine Republic to cancel the remaining 50% of the contribution for 1994 and the contribution for 1995.

5. To request the Director of PAHO to continue the high priority assigned to this Institute for the strengthening of its international reference functions in food safety and in technical cooperation for the development of national food protection and zoonoses control programs.

*(Adopted at the third plenary session,
26 April 1995)*

RESOLUTION III

PROGRAM BUDGET OF THE PAN AMERICAN FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CENTER FOR 1996-1997 AND 1998-1999

THE IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Having seen the progress report on the Hemispheric Plan for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and the program budget of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA) for the bienniums 1996-1997 and 1998-1999 (Document RIMSA9/5);

Considering the conclusions, resolutions, and recommendations of RIMSA VIII, the IV and V Meetings of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COHEFA), and the XXI and XXII Meetings of the South American Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA);

Bearing in mind that PAHO provides through PANAFTOSA technical cooperation in the framing, monitoring, and evaluation of programs for the prevention, control, and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease, and is contributing to its eradication in some countries of the Southern Cone subregion, to a reduction of the number of foci in the other subregions, and to the maintenance of the disease-free countries of North and Central America and the Caribbean, as well as of some countries and areas of South America;

Aware that the Center is the organ of technical reference for the countries of the Americas and is recognized by other international agencies, such as FAO and the OIE, as a reference center for the diagnosis of vesicular diseases, the quality control of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines, and the epidemiological surveillance of vesicular diseases;

Considering that the Center maintains and coordinates, with the Member States of PAHO, the Hemispheric Epidemiological Surveillance System and the manpower training program; and

Considering the agreement in force since 1953 between PAHO and the Federative Republic of Brazil, and that this Government has continued its commitment to provide a regular contribution to the Center for the maintenance of its headquarters and payment of the remunerations of its local staff, and for other operating expenses and works,

RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization approval of the program budget of the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, set at US\$ 8,799,900 for 1996-1997 and at \$10,066,900 for 1998-1999.
2. To thank the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil for its hospitality to the Center in providing facilities for the conduct of its activities.
3. To ask the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil to cancel the balance of its annual contribution for maintenance of the Center's headquarters in the amount of US\$ 88,698.97 for 1992-1993, \$300,000 for 1994, and \$300,000 for 1995, for a total in national currency equivalent to US\$ 688,698.97.
4. To request of the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil that its annual contributions in local currency for maintenance of the Center's headquarters and remuneration of the locally hired staff in the bienniums 1996-1997 and 1998-1999 continue to be not less than the equivalent of US\$ 300,000 a year.
5. To recommend to the Member Governments and international agencies that they continue making special contributions to PANAFTOSA for specific projects in connection with programs for the prevention, control, and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease of interest to the countries in the Region, and in particular to ask the Governments of Argentina, Bolivia, and Venezuela to make the greatest possible effort to complete the payment of balances outstanding under commitments undertaken with the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center.

*(Adopted at the third plenary session,
26 April 1995)*

RESOLUTION IV

HEMISPHERIC COMMITTEE FOR THE ERADICATION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE (COHEFA)

THE IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Considering that the report presented by the Secretariat in the V Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COHEFA) highlights a significant change in the procedures for struggle against foot-and-mouth disease based on the participation of producers and the various sectors involved, which has contributed to the continuity of eradication programs, to the benefit of economic and social development in the Region;

Considering that the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease has scored important achievements, such as the maintenance of Uruguay disease-free for 58 months, the mesopotamian region of Argentina for over two years, Argentina as a whole for 12 months, and the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina in Brazil for 16 months;

In consideration of the fact that the countries of North America, Central America, the Caribbean, and Chile have remained free of foot-and-mouth disease; and

In view of the fact that some countries are behind in the pursuit of the proposed eradication targets, and particularly in the Andean and Amazonian subregions where there is less evidence of participative management between the public and private sectors,

RESOLVES:

1. To endorse the recommendations of the V Regular Meeting of the Hemispheric Committee for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and the resolutions of the XXI and XXII Regular Meetings of the South American Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA).
2. To congratulate the countries of the Plate Basin project for the gains made, and to recognize the efforts of the public and private sectors in the countries, particularly those of the cattle farmers who, with firm resolve, dedication, and uninterrupted programs, have helped obtain successful results in the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease of special significance to the Region.

3. To urge governments and private institutions associated with animal production, and the social sectors in the Andean and Amazonian areas, to seek alternative ways to strengthen their local programs and administrative organizations for attainment of the goals and targets of the control measures established in the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

4. To request the Director of the Pan American Health Organization, acting through the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center and in coordination with FAO, IICA, JUNAC, the EU, OIE and other international agencies, and in keeping with the provisions of the Hemispheric Program, to intensify technical cooperation and the search for external financing for the Andean subregion to enable those countries to attain the goals set in the Plan.

5. To thank the Director of the Pan American Health Organization for its technical support, and to request that provision be made to ensure the sustainability of PAHO's technical cooperation with the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

*(Adopted at the third plenary session,
26 April 1995)*

RESOLUTION V

**CONDOLENCES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

THE IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

In face of the tragic event of 19 April 1995 in Oklahoma City, in which children, women, men, and elderly lost their lives; and

Concerned by this event, which has aroused uncertainty, anguish, and sorrow in the people of the United States of America,

RESOLVES:

To ask the Director of the Pan American Health Organization, on behalf of the IX Inter-American Meeting, at the Ministerial Level, on Animal Health, to convey to the Government and people of the United States of America its deepest condolences for the terrible event in Oklahoma City, and to express its revulsion at and utter repudiation of acts of terrorism as a vehicle for the assertion of political or any other claims.

*(Adopted at the fourth plenary session,
26 April 1995)*

RESOLUTION VI

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND SAFETY IN FOOD PRODUCTION AND MARKETING

THE IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Taking account of the recommendations on the subjects of the panel "The Production and Marketing of Food and the Protection of Public Health" (Documents RIMSA9/11, 12, 13 and 14);

Aware that ensuring the quality and safety of foods encompasses the entire process from production to consumption as an integral whole;

Considering that the technical cooperation program of the Pan American Health Organization, acting through its Veterinary Public Health Program, has been collaborating with the countries in the stages of that process; and

Bearing in mind that the subregional economic integration initiatives, the Codex Alimentarius, the World Trade Organization, and the International Office of Epizootics, require the strengthening of global and regional measures for the harmonization of sanitary standards,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Member Governments:
 - (a) To frame intersectoral policies on the production and marketing of foods that will ensure their quality and safety in addition to their availability to the more deprived population sectors.
 - (b) To establish national mechanisms for the coordination of cooperation measures between the World Trade Organization, national agencies, and international organizations such as FAO, IICA, OIE, OIRSA, PAHO, and WHO in matters of sanitary food protection.
2. To request the Director of PAHO:
 - (a) To strengthen the technical cooperation activities of the Veterinary Public Health Program in relation to integrated food protection programs, with emphasis on

measures for the surveillance and control of food-borne diseases and with modern approaches to inspection and analytical procedures to ensure the quality and safety of foods and the modernization of inspection systems based on the hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) approach.

- (b) To ensure the delivery of integrated technical cooperation in food protection and safety through its Veterinary Public Health Program and its Pan American Institute for Food Protection and Zoonoses (INPPAZ) so that it will cover the entire chain of food production and consumption.
- (c) To strengthen technical cooperation to the countries for the purpose of supporting measures for improving the sanitary conditions of the sale of foods by street vendors, with emphasis on areas of interest for tourism.
- d) To promote training in the surveillance of foodborne diseases, basic sanitation, and food protection in collaboration with international technical cooperation agencies and academic institutions of Latin America and the Caribbean.

*(Adopted at the fifth plenary session,
27 April 1995)*

RESOLUTION VII

LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT, PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND HEALTH

THE IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Considering the topics of the Panel on "The Intersectoral Approach in Agriculture and Health: Policies on Agricultural and Livestock Development, Environmental Protection, and Health" (Documents RIMSA9/15, 16, 17 Rev. 1, and 18);

Bearing in mind that the misuse of chemicals in agriculture poses risks to public health and the environment;

Considering that misuse of natural resources in livestock production is a consequence of poverty, ignorance, and lack of technology;

Recognizing the need to strengthen higher education and to make maximum use of technological advances to extend to rural populations sanitary training and education for equitable production in agricultural ecosystems;

Reaffirming the importance of participation by all social actors to promote a more legitimate and equitable development of agricultural production in the framework of sustainable development; and

Considering that extensive animal production in areas exclusively for stockraising, using appropriate technology, is compatible with sustainable development,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Member Governments:
 - (a) To strengthen the mechanisms of multisectoral mobilization for protection of the environment and to improve the conditions of life of populations and intersectoral articulation between agriculture and health for the promotion and protection of health in areas of agricultural production.
 - (b) To strengthen national actions for social participation, giving preference to rural populations for sanitary instruction, training, and education using the communications media best suited to attainment of the effective protection of food

production ecosystems and to promotion in the population of responsibility for its own health.

- (c) To have the governmental agricultural and health services recognize and support farmers in the equitable development of production.**
 - (d) To develop intersectoral measures for updating legislation and standards on the domestic and foreign marketing of chemicals for use in agricultural production, and to take measures for the proper use of these products so as to avert risks to public health and the environment.**
- 2. To request the Director of PAHO:**
- (a) To continue encouraging intersectoral action between national production and social sectors and action by international agencies to promote balance between the environment, public health, and agricultural production.**
 - (b) In coordination with international and bilateral technical and financial cooperation agencies, to support technological research and development and training for the human resources of the Member States for the equitable transformation of the development of animal production, and to strengthen technological development in higher education.**
 - (c) To strengthen the technical cooperation actions of the Veterinary Public Health Program for environmental protection and public health with respect to animal production.**

*(Adopted at the fifth plenary session,
27 April 1995)*

RESOLUTION VIII

ZOONOSES

THE IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING,

Taking account of Document RIMSA9/4 on the regional veterinary public health programs, describing the progress made under the programs for the elimination of human and canine rabies and the eradication of bovine tuberculosis;

Having seen the reports of the Scientific Working Group on Progress in the Prevention, Control, and Treatment of Hydatidosis (Document RIMSA9/10) and the Meeting of the Working Group on the Prevention, Control, and Eradication of Brucellosis in Latin America and the Caribbean (Document RIMSA9/9);

Considering the recommendations of the special conferences on "Plague: Regional Situation and Intersectoral Control Methods" (Document RIMSA9/19) and "Taeniasis/Cysticercosis: Sociocultural and Economic Determinants" (Document RIMSA9/20);

Mindful of the constant threat of new zoonoses originating in the unending struggle between agent, host, and environment and the resurgence of others with the permanent ecological changes brought about by sociocultural and economic habits; and

Considering the social and economic importance of the prevalent and emerging zoonoses and that their prevention requires intersectoral measures with the full participation of all social actors involved,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Governments:
 - (a) To maintain their political will and the resources needed to eliminate canine rabies before the year 2000, and to continue strengthening the measures for the prevention, control, elimination, and eradication of bovine tuberculosis, brucellosis, bat-transmitted rabies, hydatidosis, taeniasis/cysticercosis, and plague.
 - (b) To implement monitoring and surveillance systems for the immediate detection of possibly emergent diseases common to man and animals, together with plans for their prompt control to prevent them from spreading and becoming endemic.

- (c) **To strengthen multisectoral articulation with the active participation of all social actors under the new approaches for the modernization of government, and especially those of health, agriculture and education..**
- 2. To request the Director of PAHO:**

 - (a) **To continue supporting the provision by the Program of Veterinary Public Health of technical cooperation with the countries for the maintenance and strengthening of measures for the elimination of rabies and the prevention, control and eradication of bovine tuberculosis, brucellosis, hydatidosis, taeniasis/cysticercosis and plague.**
 - (b) **To continue promoting and supporting intersectoral measures, particularly between health and agriculture, and social participation for the organization and strengthening of local health and veterinary care systems, for the prevention and control of zoonoses.**
 - (c) **To support the Member Governments in the framing and implementation of plans and programs for the control and eradication of emergent diseases.**
 - (d) **To promote coordination among bilateral and international technical and financial cooperation agencies for the strengthening and development of plans and programs for the prevention, control, and eradication of zoonoses.**

*(Adopted at the fifth plenary session,
27 April 1995)*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the President of RIMSA IX and the Secretary *ex officio*, Director of the Pan American Health Organization, sign the present Final Report in the English and Spanish languages, the two texts being equally authentic.

DONE in Washington, D.C., United States of America, on this twenty-seventh day of April nineteen hundred and ninety-five.

Ramón Villeda Bermúdez
President of RIMSA IX
Minister of Natural Resources
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George A. O. Alleyne
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Director of the
Pan American Health Organization

Annex: List of Participants



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION

**IX INTER-AMERICAN MEETING, AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL,
ON ANIMAL HEALTH**

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Washington, D.C., USA, 25 - 27 April 1995

**RIMSA9/3, Rev. 2
27 April 1995
27 de abril de 1995**

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