



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



**15th DIRECTING COUNCIL**  
16th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., August 31 – 11 September 1964*

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***RESOLUTION***

***CD15.R41***

**STATUS OF SMALLPOX ERADICATION IN THE AMERICAS**

*THE 15<sup>th</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Having considered the report of the Director on the status of smallpox eradication in the Americas (Document CD15/22) 1 and the program of PAHO/WHO in this regard (Resolution WHA17.43);

Bearing in mind that smallpox has already disappeared from several countries of the Americas and that in others it is being eliminated through intensive vaccination campaigns, whereas in some the disease persists and no suitable smallpox campaign has been initiated;

Taking into account the fact that the Governments of the countries that are now free of the disease are concerned about the threat posed by the foci of smallpox that persist in the Americas;

Mindful of Resolution XIX adopted at the XIII Pan American Sanitary Conference; and

Considering that contributions of vaccine have been made by countries in this Region as well as in other Regions of WHO,

***RESOLVES***

1. To pay tribute to the memory of those public health workers who have faced great difficulties in the course of their work and have on occasion given their lives in fulfillment of their duty.

- 2.To again emphasize the urgent necessity of eradicating smallpox from the Hemisphere as part of the world-wide program for that purpose.
- 3.To express its satisfaction with the fact that smallpox has already disappeared from many countries of the Americas as a result of extensive eradication campaigns, and that other countries within the Hemisphere are carrying out intensive nation-wide campaigns to eliminate this disease.
- 4.To recommend to the Governments of countries that have eradicated smallpox that they maintain a high level of immunization and maintain constant vigilance against the recurrence of the disease.
- 5.To again urge the Governments of countries where smallpox still exists to institute eradication programs or to intensify those under way, to continue their efforts to overcome all administrative and financial difficulties in the way of these programs, and to assign such programs the high priority they deserve.
- 6.To instruct the Director to take all necessary steps to support and to provide the Governments with advisory services so as to enable them to eradicate smallpox.
- 7.To authorize the Director, under special circumstances, to request and accept contributions of equipment, personnel, material, or other collaboration required to achieve the objective desired.
- 8.To recommend to the countries producing smallpox vaccine that they adopt measures designed to establish a "smallpox vaccine pool" through voluntary contributions of vaccine, so that supplies may be sent without delay to countries in which emergency situations may arise.
- 9.To recommend to the Governments that they adopt special measures for the confirmation by all available means, and particularly [those of] laboratories, of any suspected cases of smallpox found within their territory.

*Aug.--Sept. 1964 OD 58, 91*