



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **29th DIRECTING COUNCIL**

35th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

*Washington D.C., 26 September – 3 October 1983*

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CD29.R22***

### **WOMEN, HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

*THE 29<sup>th</sup> DIRECTING COUNCIL,*

Recognizing the important roles played by women both in the home and in the work place;

Considering that the Organization is capable of providing greater leadership and guidance in the design and implementation of activities related to women in health and development;

Concerned with the slow rate of progress achieved in the implementation of the Five-Year Regional Plan of Action on Women in Health and Development; and

Recognizing that success in attaining the goals of the Five-Year Plan of Action largely depends on the full participation of the Member Countries,

#### ***RESOLVES***

1. To urge the Member Government to:

a) Establish more effective mechanisms for the promotion and recognition of women's roles in health and development;

b) Strengthen national policies and programs for the protection and improvement of women's health both in the regulated and unregulated sectors of the economy, and particularly with regard to the health and safety of women in the workplace;

- c) Strengthen programs for the prevention, early detection, and treatment of diseases such as breast and cervical cancer, peculiar to women in their reproductive role;
- d) Increase the participation of nongovernmental and charitable organizations, as well as community groups that are concerned with women's issues, in the formulation of national health care goals, priorities, and programs;
- e) Create more opportunities for women to acquire the skills necessary for professional development, career advancement, and accession to posts of authority, especially in the health and social sectors;
- f) Establish mechanisms to identify and nominate more women for professional posts in the Organization;
- g) Enact legislation designed to guarantee equal rights for women.

2. To request the Director to:

- a) Accord a higher priority to the program for women in health and development;
- b) Promote the measures required to make available the human and financial resources needed to effectively carry out activities to achieve the goals of the Five-Year Regional Plan of Action on Women in Health and Development;
- c) Intensify efforts to identify and recruit suitable women candidates for consideration in the selection process for senior and professional posts in the Organization;
- d) Ensure that Country Representatives commit themselves to carrying out their functions as focal points for women in health and development in the countries, and thus make persistent efforts to accomplish the purposes of the program;
- e) Provide policy guidelines to the Member Governments and the Organization to assist in the implementation of the Five-Year Plan of Action;
- f) Ensure closer coordination of PAHO's activities on women in health and development with those of other national and international agencies concerned with women's issues.

*Sept.–Oct. 1983 OD 192, 68*