



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



24th DIRECTING COUNCIL
28th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 27 September – 7 October 1976

RESOLUTION

CD24.R32

**DEVELOPMENT OF THE HEALTH SERVICE INFRASTRUCTURE
WITH DUE REGARD TO THE NEED FOR EXTENSION OF
COVERAGE**

THE 24th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having studied the Final Report of the Technical Discussions on the topic: "Development of the Health Service Infrastructure with Due Regard to the Need for Extension of Coverage," held during the current Meeting (Document CD24/DT/3, Rev. 1);

Recognizing that the basic concepts of "Health services coverage," "Primary health services," and "Community participation" are interpreted differently because of the peculiar features of the various countries and the multisectoral approach that should be followed;

Being aware of the need for a better knowledge of the nature of the national processes for extending health services coverage so as to redirect and maximize the human and material resources of the health sector to strengthen those processes,

Bearing in mind that programming and implementing the extension of coverage calls for operational definitions, adaptable to the characteristics of the different countries, of such important problems as, the formal health system and its relationship and interaction with community health

systems; the most suitable technology for achieving extension of coverage, within the limitations imposed by the shortage of resources, and the administrative and operational solutions that the countries should adopt in order to accelerate the attainment of their health goals, using whatever technologies they deem appropriate; and

Recognizing that the tasks described above should be approached in a spirit of solidarity by the Ministries of Health, with the technical support of the Organization, in order to meet the priority regional goal of extending health services coverage to the unprotected rural and urban-fringe populations,

RESOLVES

1. To urge the Governments to intensify their efforts to solve the problems involved in the development of the health service infrastructure with due regard to the need for extension of coverage by expanding the relevant programs and giving them priority.
2. To request those Governments which have gained experience in implementing programs for extension of coverage to share it with other countries, in cooperation with the Organization.
3. To urge the Governments to include an evaluation component in their plans for expanding health services coverage and to mobilize the research resources of universities and other centers to help in evaluating programs, training personnel, establishing output indices, selecting operational methods and calculating costs, in the various countries.
4. To request the Director to promote and organize activities aimed at collecting, analyzing and giving operational form to the experience and knowledge accumulated in executing programs for extension of coverage, with a view to placing them at the disposal of the other countries, especially in regard to the definition of the formal health system and its relationship and interaction with the informal community system, the most suitable technology for achieving extension of coverage within the limitations imposed by the shortage of resources, and the administrative and operational solutions that the countries should adopt in order to accelerate the attainment of their health goals, using whatever technologies they deem appropriate.
5. To request the Director to organize a systematic program for carrying out the recommendations presented in the report.
6. To request the Director to convene a special meeting of Ministers of Health for the purpose of analyzing the situation in regard to the processes of expansion of coverage and adjusting the policy and strategy of the Hemisphere accordingly, so as to achieve the goals of the Ten-Year Health Plan in this field as rapidly as possible.

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