



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **26<sup>th</sup> PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE** **54<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

*Washington, D.C., USA, 23-27 September 2002*

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CSP26.R15***

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO CHRONIC DISEASES**

##### ***THE 26<sup>th</sup> PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,***

Having considered the report of the Director on public health response to chronic diseases (Document CSP26/15);

Recalling Resolution CD42.R9 on cardiovascular diseases, with an emphasis on hypertension, which endorses an integrated approach to the prevention of cardiovascular diseases through the Actions for the Multifactorial Reduction of Noncommunicable Diseases (CARMEN) initiative; and noting that CARMEN represents an avenue for integrating risk factors and diseases;

Recalling the WHA Resolution WHA 55.23, which urges Member States to collaborate with WHO in developing a global strategy on diet, physical activity, and health for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, based on evidence and best practices, with special emphasis on an integrated approach to improving diets and increasing physical activity, accomplishing all this through the introduction and strengthening of global and regional demonstration projects;

Noting that chronic noncommunicable diseases contribute to 70% of deaths in the Region of the Americas, and that more than half of premature mortality under the age of 70 years is attributed to chronic noncommunicable diseases; and

Alarmed by the increasing cost of noncommunicable diseases to society as a consequence of rapid demographic and epidemiological changes,

***RESOLVES:***

1. To urge the Member States to:
  - (a) make efforts to document the burden of chronic diseases and their risk factors;
  - (b) endorse the CARMEN initiative as one of the main strategies for integrated prevention of chronic diseases;
  - (c) incorporate cost-effective models of care for chronic conditions in order to improve quality of care and to increase the capacity of primary care to respond to the needs of the population.
  
2. To request the Director to:
  - (a) provide technical cooperation to Member States in developing an integrated approach to noncommunicable diseases, based on the CARMEN initiative;
  - (b) support Member States to develop and improve surveillance of noncommunicable diseases and their risk factors;
  - (c) support and encourage operational research on the effective implementation of programs to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases and reduce their impact;
  - (d) support and facilitate the Member States' active participation and contributions to the development of a global strategy on diet, physical activity, and health for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases;
  - (e) coordinate with other organizations of the United Nations system, country-based institutions, and nongovernmental organizations to support the prevention and control of chronic diseases.

*(Eighth meeting, 26 September 2002)*