



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



48th DIRECTING COUNCIL

60th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 29 September-3 October 2008

CD48.R15 (Eng.)
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH-SPANISH

RESOLUTION

CD48.R15

PUBLIC HEALTH, INNOVATION AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

THE 48th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having considered the report *Public Health, Innovation, and Intellectual Property: A Regional Perspective* (Document CD48/18);

Noting the Region's high level of participation in the negotiations leading to the World Health Assembly's approval of Resolution WHA61.21 (2008) "Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation, and Intellectual Property";

Recalling the Global Strategy on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property, paragraph 15 of which states: "The WHO Constitution states that 'the objective of WHO shall be the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health'. Accordingly, the WHO shall play a strategic and central role in the relationship between public health and innovation and intellectual property within its mandates (including those contained in relevant WHA resolutions), capacities and constitutional objectives, bearing in mind those of other relevant intergovernmental organizations. In this context, the WHO, including the regional and, when appropriate, country offices, need to strengthen its institutional competencies and relevant programs in order to play its role in implementing this global strategy with its plan of action.";

Recalling PAHO Directing Council resolutions CD45.R7 (2004) on access to medicines; CD45.R10 (2004), on the scaling-up of treatment within a comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS; CD46.R15 (2005), on the Regional Strategic Plan for

HIV/AIDS/STIs 2006-2015 of the Pan American Health Organization, and CD47.R7 (2006), on public health, health research, production and access to essential medicines, as well as World Health Assembly Resolutions WHA59.24, Public Health, Innovation, Essential Health Research and Intellectual Property Rights: Towards a Global Strategy and Plan of Action, and WHA60.30, Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property;

Recalling likewise the Strategic Plan 2008-2012 for PASB, the Health Agenda for the Americas 2009-2017; and

Committing itself to an implementation at the national level of the global strategy and the agreed parts of the plan of action,

RESOLVE:

1. To urge Member States to:
 - (a) promote research and technological innovation in the pharmaceutical, scientific, and manufacturing sectors;
 - (b) strengthen relations and collaboration among key stakeholders, from different sectors (public, private, academic, industrial, and scientific), that can play a role in the implementation of the global strategy in accordance with the agreed parts of the plan of action;
 - (c) consider translating the political will expressed during the discussions of the global strategy into budgetary proposals consistent with the national health priorities;
 - (d) improve cooperation among countries and, where applicable, within subregional integration organizations, in order to promote technology transfer and foster research and technological innovation among countries.
2. Request the Director to:
 - (a) disseminate to society's relevant stakeholders the global strategy and agreed parts of the plan of action;
 - (b) collaborate constructively with other international organizations working in the Region with responsibility for regional, subregional, and national implementation of the strategy;

- (c) support the effective promotion and implementation of the global strategy and agreed parts of the plan of action;
- (d) report periodically to the Directing Council, through the Executive Committee, on the implementation of the global strategy and the agreed parts of the plan of action.

(Ninth meeting, 3 October 2008)