



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



130th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 24-28 June 2002

RESOLUTION

CE130.R19

HEALTH AND AGING

THE 130th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having examined Document CE130/15, Health and Aging,

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Directing Council the adoption of a resolution along the following lines:

THE 26th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,

Taking into account the importance of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Aging, to address the health problems of the older population of the Americas;

Acknowledging the shift of paradigm to healthy and active aging and the efforts made towards reducing the negative stereotypes and misunderstandings about aging since the 25th Pan American Sanitary Conference and its adoption of Resolution CSP25.R6;

Understanding the immense implications of population aging to many of the health priorities of the Americas; and

Considering the need to promote, in collaboration with other partners, a comprehensive system to support active healthy aging,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge Member States to:
 - (a) build on the momentum created by the 2nd World Assembly on Aging, adopt national policies and plans for the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging, and provide adequate support for the implementation of priority areas;
 - (b) advocate for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of older persons;
 - (c) adopt appropriate health promotion priorities for older persons and develop gender-specific targets and monitoring strategies in the areas of nutritional health, physical activity, unintentional injury and fall prevention, and mental health;
 - (d) commit to increase the access of older persons, especially those that are resource poor, to aging appropriate health care and essential medications;
 - (e) promote initiatives for the development of community-based long-term care options (including supportive housing and assisted living) and regulate the provision of care to vulnerable populations;
 - (f) promote research for the monitoring and evaluation of program effectiveness;
 - (g) develop a plan for the training of primary health workers and other health professionals in the basics of health promotion for older persons and geriatric medicine.
2. To request the Director to:
 - (a) support the regional implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging in coordination with other collaborating partners;
 - (b) assist Member States to develop healthy aging targets and indicators;
 - (c) encourage Member States to develop coordinated community-based strategies to support active aging and to disseminate information on these experiences;
 - (d) assist Member States to work toward the development of enabling and supportive environments for older persons, including regulated long-term care facilities.

(Eighth meeting, 27 June 2002)