



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## 140th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Washington, D.C., USA, 25-29 June 2007*

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### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CE140.R10***

#### **ELIMINATION OF RUBELLA AND CONGENITAL RUBELLA SYNDROME IN THE AMERICAS**

##### ***THE 140th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,***

Having considered the progress report presented by the Director on the elimination of rubella and congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) in the Americas (Document CE140/8);

Noting with satisfaction that tremendous progress has been achieved in obtaining the interruption of endemic rubella virus transmission, thus reducing the number of rubella cases in the Region by 98%, and that incidence is at its lowest to date in the Americas; and

Recognizing that considerable efforts will be needed to support and reach the elimination goal by 2010, requiring further commitment on the part of governments and the partner organizations that are collaborating on the elimination initiative, and the strengthening of ties between public and private sectors,

#### ***RESOLVES:***

To recommend to the 27th Pan American Sanitary Conference the adoption of a resolution along the following lines:

##### ***THE 27th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,***

Having considered the progress report presented by the Director on the elimination of rubella and congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) in the Americas (Document CSP27/7);

Noting with satisfaction that tremendous progress has been achieved in obtaining the interruption of endemic rubella virus transmission, thus reducing the number of rubella cases in the Region by 98%, and that incidence is at its lowest to date in the Americas; and

Recognizing that considerable efforts will be needed to support and reach the elimination goal by 2010, requiring further commitment on the part of governments and the partner organizations that are collaborating on the elimination initiative, and the strengthening of ties between public and private sectors,

***RESOLVES:***

1. To congratulate all Member States and their health workers on the progress achieved to date in the elimination of rubella and congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) in the Americas, which demonstrates their level of commitment to the health of the population of the Western Hemisphere.
2. To express appreciation and request continued support from the various organizations that, together with PAHO, have offered crucial support to national immunization programs and national endeavors to eliminate rubella and CRS, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Canadian International Development Agency, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency, the March of Dimes, the Sabin Vaccine Institute, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United States Agency for International Development, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
3. To urge all Member States to:
  - (a) Achieve the elimination of rubella and CRS in the Americas by finalizing the implementation of vaccination strategies, intensifying integrated measles/rubella surveillance, and strengthening CRS surveillance;
  - (b) Establish national commissions to compile and analyze data to document and verify measles, rubella and CRS elimination, for review by an expert committee.
4. To request the Director to:
  - (a) Continue efforts to mobilize additional resources necessary to surmount the challenges described in the progress report;
  - (b) Form an Expert Committee responsible for documenting and verifying the interruption of transmission of endemic measles virus and rubella virus.

*(Seventh meeting, 28 June 2007)*