



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



26th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE
54th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

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

RESOLUTION

CSP26.R12

**ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME
(AIDS) IN THE AMERICAS**

THE 26th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,

Recalling Resolution CD32.R12, which requested the Director to provide annual reports on the situation of HIV/AIDS in the Region;

Having seen Document CSP26/7 "Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in the Americas";

Recognizing that the HIV/AIDS epidemic constitutes a global and regional emergency with far-reaching effects, whose impact on the countries of the Americas can and should be reduced through heightened political, technical, and financial efforts;

Aware of the opportunities for strengthening national responses to the epidemic offered by the goals of the Declaration of the 26th United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (June 2001); the creation of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria; the shared agenda of the Pan American Health Organization, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Bank; the advances made in developing subregional and intercountry strategic plans and partnerships, and the rapid progress of the WHO and UNAIDS initiative on accelerated access to antiretroviral drugs in the countries of the Region, as well as WHO's Global Health-Sector Strategy; and

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, adopted at the Fourth World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference in Doha, Qatar, from 9 to 14 November 2001,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Member States to:
 - (a) make the greatest effort to meet the goals of the United Nations Declaration on HIV/AIDS, especially those aimed at preventing HIV infection; providing care, support, and treatment to people living with HIV/AIDS; and reducing the stigma and social exclusion associated with the epidemic;
 - (b) continue to promote and facilitate subregional and intercountry cooperation, forging strategic partnerships that utilize technical and financing agencies and appropriate economic and political forums that can broaden the national and regional response to the HIV/AIDS/STI epidemic in the Americas;
 - (c) explore national and regional options to lower the cost of antiretroviral drugs and other public health supplies linked with the fight against HIV/AIDS.
2. To request the Director to:
 - (a) strengthen institutional capacity and response to meet the challenges posed by the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Americas, specifically in regard to the prevention of HIV infection and STIs and the care and treatment of people living with HIV/AIDS;
 - (b) develop a regional strategic framework that supports and strengthens technical cooperation with the Member States and promotes better utilization of new global and regional opportunities, such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria; the initiative for accelerated access to antiretroviral drugs; the Global Health-Sector Strategy; and subregional cooperation among countries, within the framework of the interagency collaboration promoted by the United Nations;
 - (c) explore mechanisms to build national capacity for the quality control of generic drugs.
3. To thank the Director for the comprehensive annual reports he has presented in compliance with Resolution CD32.R12 adopted by the Directing Council in 1987, and request that he report to the Governing Bodies in the future only when he considers there are significant developments in HIV/AIDS in the Region or in approaches to prevention or control of HIV/AIDS.

(Seventh meeting, 26 September 2002)