



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



126th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., 26-30 June 2000

Agenda Item 3.3

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REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. Applications for Admittance into Official Working Relations with PAHO

Paragraph 4.4 of the *Principles Governing Relations between the Pan American Health Organization and Nongovernmental Organizations* states:

During the June meeting of the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee will consider applications submitted by NGOs and make recommendations to the Executive Committee; it may invite the NGO to speak before it in connection with the NGO's application. Should the applicant NGO be considered not to meet the established criteria, and bearing in mind the desirability of ensuring a valuable continuing partnership based on defined objectives and evidenced by a record of successful past collaboration and a framework for future collaborative activities, the Standing Committee may recommend postponement of consideration or rejection of an application.

This year, an application to enter into official relations with PAHO was received from the Latin American Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (ALIFAR) by the deadline established in the *Principles*. The Director submitted this application to the Standing Committee for its consideration.

The Standing Committee, composed of the Representatives of Ecuador, Guyana, and Nicaragua, considered the background paper prepared by the Secretariat, which contained a profile of the applicant NGO and a history of its collaborative activities with PAHO. After carefully reviewing the background documentation available to it, the Standing Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that it admit the Latin American Association of Pharmaceutical Industries into official relations with PAHO.

2. Review of the NGOs in Official Relations with PAHO

Paragraph 4.8 of the *Principles* requires that:

Every six years, the Executive Committee, through the Standing Committee, will review the list of NGOs with which PAHO has official working relations and, based on the results of the biennial workplans and activities undertaken during the period in which official working relations were in operation, shall determine the desirability of maintaining these relations.

The Director submitted to the Standing Committee information on the six inter-American NGOs whose relations with PAHO were due for six-year review. The information provided included that submitted by each NGO in support of its application for continuation of official formal relations, as well as the Director's analysis of its collaborative activities with PAHO.

The six NGOs are: Inter-American College of Radiology (ICR); Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI); Latin American Federation of Hospitals (FLH); Latin American Union against Sexually Transmitted Diseases (ULACETS); Pan American Federation of Associations of Medical Schools (FEPAFEM); and Pan American Federation of Nursing Professionals (FEPPEN).

2.1 In light of the information provided, the Standing Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that it authorize continuation of official relations between the following NGOs and PAHO for a four-year period: Inter-American College of Radiology; Latin American Federation of Hospitals; Pan American Federation of Associations of Medical Schools; and Pan American Federation of Nursing Professionals.

2.2 The Standing Committee, after reviewing the information provided and noting gaps in the working relationship of the Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry with PAHO, and shortcomings in the relationship of the Latin American Union against Sexually Transmitted Diseases and PAHO, recommends to the Executive Committee that it authorize continuation of official relations between these NGOs and PAHO for a two-year period, after which the Standing Committee will again review the desirability of continuing these relations.

The Standing Committee also encourages PAHO to expand its relationship with the wider community of NGOs working against AIDS in the Americas and in other areas of interest to PAHO.

3. Review of the *Principles Governing Relations between the Pan American Health Organization and Nongovernmental Organizations*

The Standing Committee considered a proposed revision of the *Principles* prepared by the Secretariat, which would improve the language and reorder parts of the text, in order to clarify its provisions and to facilitate the work of the Standing Committee. The revised version did include two substantive changes, which were discussed and endorsed by the Standing Committee: the first would reduce the period between reviews of NGOs in official relations with PAHO from six to four years, considered to be a more manageable interval; the second would permit either PAHO or the NGO concerned to terminate official relations, provided the other party is notified in writing and the action is approved by the Executive Committee, through the Standing Committee.

In light of the above, the Standing Committee proposes to the Executive Committee adoption of the following resolution:

**NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH PAHO**

THE 126th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having studied the report of the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations (Document CE126/7, Add. I);

Mindful of the provisions of the *Principles Governing Relations between the Pan American Health Organization and Nongovernmental Organizations (1995)*; and

Believing that the changes proposed to the *Principles* are rational and would facilitate their application,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the revised version of the *Principles Governing Relations between the Pan American Health Organization and Nongovernmental Organizations* contained in the Annex to Document CE126/7, Add. I.
2. To admit the Latin American Association of Pharmaceutical Industries into official relations with PAHO for a four-year period.
3. To renew official relations for a four-year period with the Inter-American College of Radiology, the Latin American Federation of Hospitals, the Pan American Federation

of Associations of Medical Schools, and the Pan American Federation of Nursing Professionals.

4. To extend official relations with the Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biology and the Latin American Union against Sexually Transmitted Diseases for a two-year period, and to request the Standing Committee, during the 130th Session of the Executive Committee in 2002, to review the progress that COLABIOCLI and ULACETS have made in addressing the Standing Committee's concerns and to make a recommendation on the desirability of continuing these relations.

5. To request the Director to:

- (a) advise the respective NGOs of the decisions taken by the Executive Committee;
- (b) continue developing dynamic working relations with inter-American NGOs whose areas of interest fall within the program priorities that the Governing Bodies have adopted for PAHO;
- (c) assess the relevance of the relationship with inter-American NGOs working officially with PAHO, encouraging more participation and collaboration;
- (d) continue fostering relationships between Member States and NGOs in health-related fields;
- (e) expand PAHO's relations with the wider community of NGOs concerned with confronting the challenge of AIDS in the Americas and in other areas of interest to PAHO.

Annex