



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



128th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Agenda Item 3.4

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NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH PAHO

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

1. Applications of Nongovernmental Organizations (NGO) for Admittance into Official Working Relations with PAHO

Paragraph 4.3 of the *Principles Governing Relations between the Pan American Health Organization and Nongovernmental Organizations* states that:

“During the June session of the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee will consider applications submitted by NGOs and make recommendations thereon to the Executive Committee; it may invite a representative of the NGO to speak before it in connection with a representation of 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, the Director submitted for the consideration of the Standing Committee the applications received by the deadline established in the *Principles* of three nongovernmental organizations: the American Society of Microbiology, the March of Dimes, and the World Association of Sexology, to enter into official relations with PAHO.

The Standing Committee, composed of the Representatives of Bolivia, Jamaica, and Nicaragua, considered the background paper prepared by the Secretariat, which contained profiles of the applicant NGOs and a history of their 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 American Society of Microbiology, the March of Dimes, and the World Association of Sexology into official relations with PAHO.

2. Review of the Nongovernmental Organizations in Official Relations with PAHO

Paragraph 5 of the *Principles* requires that:

“The Standing Committee will normally review collaboration with each NGO with which PAHO has official working relations every four years and, based on the results of the biennial work plans and activities undertaken during the period under review and on proposed work plan for the next four-year period, shall make a recommendation to the Executive Committee on the desirability of maintaining these relations.”

The Director submitted to the Standing Committee information on the seven inter-American nongovernmental organizations whose relations with PAHO were due for review. The information, including that submitted by each NGO in support of its application for continuation of official formal relations, and the Director’s analysis of its collaborative activities with PAHO, was made available to the Standing Committee.

The seven NGOs are:

- Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS);
- International Diabetes Federation (IDF);
- International Organization of Consumers Unions (CI-ROLAC);
- Latin American and Caribbean Association of Public Health Education (ALAESP);
- Latin American Federation of the Pharmaceutical Industry (FIFARMA);
- National Coalition of Hispanic Health and Human Services Organizations (renamed the National Alliance for Hispanic Health);
- US Pharmacopoeia (USP).

2.1 In light of the information provided on collaborative activities between each of the following NGOs and PAHO, the Standing Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that it authorize continuation of official relations with the Inter-American

Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS), the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), the Latin American and Caribbean Association of Public Health Education (ALAESp), the Latin American Federation of the Pharmaceutical Industry (FIFARMA), and the US Pharmacopoeia (USP) for a period of four years.

2.2 Concerning the International Organization of Consumers Unions (CI-ROLAC), and the National Alliance for Hispanic Health, the Standing Committee received information provided by the International Organization of Consumers Unions (CI-ROLAC) and from the National Alliance for Hispanic Health in support of their interest in continuing official relations with PAHO, as well as material provided by the PAHO Secretariat. After reviewing the material, the Standing Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that it review again the status of official relations between PAHO and the International Organization of Consumers Unions (CI-ROLAC) and the National Alliance for Hispanic Health in one year in order to give them the opportunity to present complete and satisfactory information on their activities.

In light of the above, the Standing Committee proposes to the Executive Committee that it adopt the following resolution:

Proposed Resolution

THE 128th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having studied the report (Document CE128/8, Add. I) of the Standing Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations; and

Mindful of the provisions of the *Principles Governing Relations Between the Pan American Health Organization and Nongovernmental Organizations* (1995, revised 2000),

RESOLVES:

1. To admit the American Society of Microbiology, the March of Dimes, and the World Association of Sexology into official relations with PAHO.
2. To continue official relations with the Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS), the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), the Latin American and Caribbean Association of Public Health Education (ALAESp), the Latin American Federation of the Pharmaceutical Industry (FIFARMA), and the US Pharmacopoeia (USP) for a period of four years.

3. To continue official relations between PAHO and the International Organization of Consumers Unions (CI-ROLAC) and the National Alliance for Hispanic Health for a period of one year, on the understanding that the status of their activities will be reviewed again by the Standing Committee at its meeting in 2002.
4. 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 of interest to the Organization in areas which 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 working in the field of health.