



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



130th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

RESOLUTION

CE130.R10

REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR MATERNAL MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY REDUCTION

THE 130th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having considered Document CE130/16, "Regional Strategy for Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Reduction,"

RESOLVES:

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

THE 26th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,

Having considered Document CSP26/___, "Regional Strategy for Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Reduction";

Being aware of the unnecessarily high death rate of women as a result of complications from pregnancy and childbirth; and

Taking into account that research results and practical experience have demonstrated that specific interventions, such as Essential Obstetric Care (EOC) and Skilled Attendance at Birth, can reduce the incidence and severity of major complications associated with pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period for mothers and their newborns,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Member States to:
 - (a) adopt the Millennium Summit Declaration goal of reduction of maternal mortality ratios by 75%, from 1990 levels, by the year 2015 as well as improving the intracountry ratios, especially urban-rural disparities;
 - (b) endorse and support evidence-based interventions, such as Essential Obstetric Care and Skilled Attendance at Birth, to reduce maternal mortality;
 - (c) adhere to guidelines issued jointly in 1997 by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, recommending that for every 500,000 people there be four facilities offering basic EOC and one facility offering comprehensive EOC;
 - (d) endorse and support evidence-based health promotion interventions so that women, families, and communities can plan for obstetric complications, identify problems early, and respond appropriately;
 - (e) develop key partnerships between local and national governments, health services, professional associations, women's organizations, and other nongovernmental organizations, in order to enhance efforts to reduce maternal mortality, in addition to ensuring interagency collaboration when promoting and implementing maternal mortality reduction strategies.
2. To request the Director to:
 - (a) support in establishing and implementing mechanisms to strengthen information and surveillance systems for monitoring progress in the reduction of maternal mortality;
 - (b) develop mechanisms to assist Member States to make a long-term commitment, both political and programmatic, including financial support within available resources, to implement updated safe motherhood interventions and maternal mortality reduction strategies.

(Seventh meeting, 27 June 2002)