

## 60th DIRECTING COUNCIL

### 75th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF WHO FOR THE AMERICAS

Washington, D.C., USA, 25–29 September 2023

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*Provisional Agenda Item 8.11-B*

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#### FIFTY-SECOND AND FIFTY-THIRD REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

##### Background

1. This document presents resolutions and declarations relevant to the activities of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) that were adopted during the Fifty-second and Fifty-third Regular Sessions of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS).

##### Fifty-second Regular Session of the General Assembly

2. The Fifty-second Regular Session of the General Assembly was held in Lima, Peru, from 5–7 October 2022.<sup>1</sup> For the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Assembly was held in person. The meeting was attended by ministers of foreign affairs and other official delegates of OAS Member States, representatives of governments accredited as permanent observers, representatives of agencies in the inter-American system, including PAHO, and entities belonging to the Summit Implementation Review Group. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, César Landa, served as president of this regular session of the General Assembly.

3. The theme of the Fifty-second Regular Session was “Together against Inequality and Discrimination.” The President of Peru, José Pedro Castillo Terrones, and the OAS Secretary General, Luis Almagro Lemes, opened the meeting.

4. This General Assembly addressed key issues for the Region of the Americas, such as the development of inclusive and resilient health systems, regional efforts to achieve food security and nutrition, promotion and protection of human rights, and cooperation for integral development in the hemisphere. A total of 13 resolutions and four declarations were adopted.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The agenda, and full list of documents are available at:

<https://www.oas.org/en/council/AG/regular/52RGA/documents.asp>

<sup>2</sup> The proceedings, including the certified texts of the declarations and resolutions, are available at:

[https://scm.oas.org/doc\\_public/ENGLISH/HIST\\_23/AG08750E09.docx](https://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_23/AG08750E09.docx).

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5. Prior to the start of the Fifty-second Regular Session, a dialogue was held between the heads of delegations, representatives of civil society organizations, and other social actors. The President of Peru participated in the opening segment, and the Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General of the OAS participated in the dialogue. Representatives of civil society and coalitions of social actors, as well as representatives of youth, women, workers, and the private sector shared their perspectives and recommendations to Member States on the central theme of the General Assembly and on other topics related to the mission of the OAS, such as democracy, human rights, and development. The diverse groups present included lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT)<sup>3</sup> groups, pro-family and pro-life groups, and religious groups, as well as representatives of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples.

6. During the fourth plenary session, Member States requested the Permanent Council to decide on the place and date of the Fifty-third Regular Session of the General Assembly. Following the decision of the Permanent Council, this session of the General Assembly was held in June 2023.

7. The Fifty-second regular session was closed by the President of the General Assembly and the OAS Secretary General. The President of the General Assembly and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru thanked Member States for their excellent work and emphasized that the current global crisis, characterized by inequalities and tensions, required leadership, dialogue, and cooperation. The President also stressed the relevance of the resolutions and declarations adopted and the role of OAS in responding to common challenges in the Region. The Secretary General congratulated Member States for a plural dialogue and thanked the government of Peru for its commitment.

8. Table 1, presented in Annex A, provides a list of selected resolutions adopted during the Fifty-second Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly of interest to the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization, as the specialized health agency of the inter-American system. The table links each OAS resolution to related PAHO mandates.

### **Fifty-third Regular Session of the General Assembly**

9. The Fifty-third Regular Session of the General Assembly was held in Washington D.C. from 21–23 June 2023.<sup>4</sup> The meeting was attended by ministers of foreign affairs and other official delegates of OAS Member States, representatives of governments accredited as permanent observers, representatives of agencies in the

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<sup>3</sup> PAHO uses the acronym “LGBT” in accordance with Resolution CD52.R6 (2013), Addressing the Causes of Disparities in Health Service Access and Utilization for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Trans (LGBT) Persons. It is important to note that the acronym has changed over the years to include other sexual orientations and gender identities. For example, the United Nations uses LGBTQI+, referring to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transexual, Queer, Intersex, and (+). The symbol (+) is meant to cover a broader range of sexual orientations and gender identities (asexual and pansexual, among others).

<sup>4</sup> The agenda, and full list of documents are available at:  
<https://www.oas.org/en/council/AG/regular/53RGA/documents.asp> .

inter-American system, including PAHO, and entities belonging to the Summit Implementation Review Group. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, Roberto Álvarez Gil, served as president of this regular session of the General Assembly.

10. The theme of the Fifty-third Regular Session was “Strengthening a Culture of Democratic Accountability with Human Rights Promotion, Protection, and Equality in the Americas.” The OAS Secretary General, Luis Almagro Lemes, opened the meeting.

11. This General Assembly addressed key issues for the Region of the Americas, such as democracy, the promotion and protection of human rights, the protection of migrant and refugee children, and climate financing. A total of 16 resolutions and four declarations were adopted.<sup>5</sup>

12. Prior to the start of the Fifty-third Regular Session, a dialogue was held between the heads of delegations, representatives of civil society organizations, and other social actors. The Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General of the OAS participated in the dialogue. Representatives of civil society organizations and of the private sector shared their perspectives and recommendations to Member States on the central theme of the General Assembly and on other topics related to the mission of the OAS.

13. During the fourth plenary session, Member States decided that the Fifty-fourth Regular Session of the General Assembly would be held in Suriname in 2024.

14. The Fifty-third Regular Session was closed by the President of the General Assembly and the OAS Secretary General. The President of the General Assembly and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic applauded the open and transparent dialogue held during the Assembly and thanked Member States and the Secretariat for making it possible. The Secretary General highlighted the significance of the decisions made to strengthen democracy in the Region and invited Member States to continue working together to reduce inequality and polarization. He also commended the President of the General Assembly for his leadership.

15. Table 2, presented in Annex B, provides a list of selected resolutions adopted during the Fifty-third Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly of interest to the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization, and links each OAS resolution to related PAHO mandates.

### **Action by the Directing Council**

16. The Directing Council is invited to take note of this report.

### **Annexes**

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<sup>5</sup> The texts of the declarations and resolutions are available at:  
[https://scm.oas.org/doc\\_public/ENGLISH/HIST\\_23/AG08884E03.docx](https://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_23/AG08884E03.docx).

## Annex A

**Table 1. Resolutions Adopted by the Fifty-second Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly in Relation to PAHO Mandates**

Resolutions of the OAS General Assembly	Linkage to PAHO Mandates
<p>AG/RES. 2993 (LII-O/22) Recovery and Strengthening of Inclusive and Resilient Health Systems</p>	<p>Increasing Production Capacity for Essential Medicines and Health Technologies Resolution <a href="#">CD59.R3</a> (2021) Document <a href="#">CD59/8</a> (2021)</p> <p>Strategy for Building Resilient Health Systems and Post COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery to Sustain and Protect Public Health Gains Resolution <a href="#">CD59.R12</a> (2021) Document <a href="#">CD59/11</a> (2021)</p> <p>Reinvigorating Immunization as a Public Good for Universal Health Resolution <a href="#">CD59.R13</a> (2021) Document <a href="#">CD59/10</a> (2021)</p> <p>Resilient Health Systems Document <a href="#">CD55/9</a> (2016)</p>
<p>AG/DEC. 106 (LII-O/22) Declaration of Lima: “Together against Inequality and Discrimination”</p>	<p>Report of the Commission on Equity and Health Inequalities in the Americas Document <a href="#">CD56/INF/8</a> (2018)</p> <p>Report of the Director on Addressing the Causes of Disparities in Health Services Access and Utilization for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) Persons Document <a href="#">CD56/INF/11, Corr.</a> (2018)</p> <p>Policy on Ethnicity and Health Resolution <a href="#">CSP29.R3</a> (2017) Document <a href="#">CSP29/7, Rev. 1</a> (2017)</p>
<p>AG/RES. 2984 (LII-O/22) Support for and Follow-Up to the Summits of the Americas Process</p>	<p>Strategic Plan of the Pan American Health Organization 2020–2025 Resolution <a href="#">CD57.R2</a> (2019) Document <a href="#">OD359</a> (2019)</p> <p>Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018–2030 Resolution <a href="#">CSP29.R2</a> (2017) Document <a href="#">CSP29/6, Rev. 3</a> (2017)</p>

Resolutions of the OAS General Assembly	Linkage to PAHO Mandates
<p>AG/RES. 2988 (LII-O/22)</p> <p>Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience</p>	<p>Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018–2030 Resolution <a href="#">CSP29.R2</a> (2017) Document <a href="#">CSP29/6, Rev. 3</a> (2017)</p> <p>Health of Migrants Resolution <a href="#">CD55.R13</a> (2016) Document <a href="#">CD55/11, Rev. 1</a> (2016)</p>
<p>AG/RES. 2992 (LI I-O/22)</p> <p>The State of Food and Nutrition Security in the Americas</p>	<p>Strategic Plan of the Pan American Health Organization 2020–2025 Resolution <a href="#">CD57.R2</a> (2019) Document <a href="#">OD359</a> (2019)</p> <p>Plan of Action for Women’s, Children’s, and Adolescents’ Health 2018–2030 Resolution <a href="#">CD56.R8</a> (2018) Document <a href="#">CD56/8, Rev. 1</a> (2018)</p> <p>Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018–2030 Resolution <a href="#">CSP29.R2</a> (2017) Document <a href="#">CSP29/6, Rev. 3</a> (2017)</p> <p>Plan of Action for the Prevention of Obesity in Children and Adolescents Resolution <a href="#">CD53.R13</a> (2014) Document <a href="#">CD53/9, Rev. 2</a> (2014)</p>
<p>AG/RES. 2985 (LII-O/22)</p> <p>Program-Budget of the Organization for 2023</p>	<p>Program Budget of the Pan American Health Organization 2022–2023 Resolution <a href="#">CD59.R8</a> (2021) Document <a href="#">OD363, Add. I</a> (2021)</p> <p>Strategic Plan of the Pan American Health Organization 2020–2025 Resolution <a href="#">CD57.R2</a> (2019) Document <a href="#">OD359</a> (2019)</p>
<p>AG/RES. 2983 (LII-O/22)</p> <p>Increasing and Strengthening the Participation of Civil Society and Social Actors in the Activities of the OAS and in the Summits of the Americas Process</p>	<p>Framework of Engagement with non-State Actors Resolution <a href="#">CD55.R3</a> (2016) Document <a href="#">CD55/8, Rev. 1</a> (2016)</p>

Resolutions of the OAS General Assembly	Linkage to PAHO Mandates
<p>AG/RES. 2991 (LII-O/22) Promotion and Protection of Human Rights</p>	<p>Report of the Commission on Equity and Health Inequalities in the Americas Document <a href="#">CD56/INF/8</a> (2018)</p> <p>Report of the Director on Addressing the Causes of Disparities in Health Services Access and Utilization for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) Persons Document <a href="#">CD56/INF/11, Corr.</a> (2018)</p> <p>Policy on Ethnicity and Health Resolution <a href="#">CSP29.R3</a> (2017) Document <a href="#">CSP29/7, Rev. 1</a> (2017)</p>

## Annex B

**Table 2. Resolutions Adopted by the Fifty-third Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly in Relation to PAHO Mandates**

Resolutions of the OAS General Assembly	Linkage to PAHO Mandates
<p>AG/DEC. 111 (LIII-O/23)</p> <p>Declaration for the protection and integration of migrant and refugee children in the Americas</p>	<p>Plan of Action for Women’s, Children’s, and Adolescent’s Health 2018–2030 Resolution <a href="#">CD56.R8</a> (2018) Document <a href="#">CD56/8, Rev.1</a> (2018)</p> <p>Health of Migrants Resolution <a href="#">CD55.R13</a> (2016) Document <a href="#">CD55/11, Rev.1</a> (2016)</p>
<p>AG/DEC. 113 (LIII-O/23)</p> <p>Declaration for the rights of all women, adolescents, and girls in rural areas of the Americas</p>	<p>Plan of Action for Women’s, Children’s, and Adolescent’s Health 2018–2030 Resolution <a href="#">CD56.R8</a> (2018) Document <a href="#">CD56/8, Rev.1</a> (2018)</p>
<p>AG/RES. 3011 (LIII-O/23)</p> <p>Program-Budget of the Organization for 2024</p>	<p>Program Budget of the Pan American Health Organization 2022–2023 Resolution <a href="#">CD59.R8</a> (2021) Document <a href="#">OD363, Add. I</a> (2021)</p> <p>Strategic Plan of the Pan American Health Organization 2020–2025 Resolution <a href="#">CD57.R2</a> (2019) Document <a href="#">OD359</a> (2019)</p>
<p>AG/RES. 3002 (LIII-O/23)</p> <p>Increasing and strengthening the participation of civil society and social actors in the activities of the Organization of American States and in the Summits of the Americas process; and support for and follow-up to the summits of the Americas process</p>	<p>Strategic Plan of the Pan American Health Organization 2020–2025 Resolution <a href="#">CD57.R2</a> (2019) Document <a href="#">OD359</a> (2019)</p> <p>Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018–2030 Resolution <a href="#">CSP29.R2</a> (2017) Document <a href="#">CSP29/6, Rev. 3</a> (2017)</p> <p>Framework of Engagement with non-State Actors Resolution <a href="#">CD55.R3</a> (2016) Document <a href="#">CD55/8, Rev. 1</a> (2016)</p>

Resolutions of the OAS General Assembly	Linkage to PAHO Mandates
<p>AG/RES. 3001 (LIII-O/23) Towards enhanced access to climate financing</p>	<p>Strategy and plan of action on climate change: Final report Document <a href="#">CD56/INF/16</a> (2018)</p>
<p>AG/RES. 3003 (LIII-O/23) Promotion and Protection of Human Rights</p>	<p>Report of the Commission on Equity and Health Inequalities in the Americas Document <a href="#">CD56/INF/8</a> (2018)</p> <p>Report of the Director on Addressing the Causes of Disparities in Health Services Access and Utilization for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) Persons Document <a href="#">CD56/INF/11, Corr.</a> (2018)</p> <p>Policy on Ethnicity and Health Resolution <a href="#">CSP29.R3</a> (2017) Document <a href="#">CSP29/7, Rev. 1</a> (2017)</p>

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