



61st Directing Council 76th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas

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Provisional Agenda Item 8.11-B

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FIFTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION 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-fourth Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), held in Asunción, Paraguay, from 26 to 28 June 2024.¹
- 2. This regular session of the General Assembly 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 Joint Summit Working Group. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay, Rubén Ramírez Lezcano, served as President.
- 3. The theme of the Fifty-fourth regular session was "Integration and Security for the Sustainable Development of the Region." The President of Paraguay, Santiago Peña Palacios, and the OAS Secretary General, Luis Almagro Lemes, opened the session.
- 4. This General Assembly addressed key issues for the Region of the Americas, such as promotion and protection of human rights, connectivity and technology for resilient socioeconomic development, hemispheric security, and integral development and resilience. A total of 23 resolutions and three declarations were adopted.²
- 5. The mandates adopted by the Fifty-fourth regular session include regional health priorities, such as health emergencies, mental health, prevention of discrimination against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Trans (LGBT)³ persons in health services, and access to telemedicine. The Assembly also adopted mandates in other priority matters for the Region with direct linkages to health, such as the rights

¹ The agenda and documents are available at: https://www.oas.org/en/council/AG/regular/54RGA/.

² The certified texts of the declarations and resolutions are available at: https://www.oas.org/en/council/AG/regular/54RGA/documents.asp.

³ PAHO uses the acronym LGBT according to 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+ for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transexual, Queer, Intersex, and (+). The symbol (+) intends to reach a broader range of sexual orientations and gender identities (asexual, pansexual, among others).

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of migrants and older persons, social protection, poverty eradication, gender equality, disaster response, and climate change.

- 6. Prior to the start of the Fifty-fourth regular session, a dialogue was held between the heads of delegations, representatives of civil society organizations, and other social actors. The President of the General Assembly participated in the opening segment of the dialogue, and the Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General of the OAS participated in the discussion. Representatives of women, youth, Indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples, workers, the private sector, and other social actors shared their perspectives and recommendations to Member States on the central theme of the General Assembly as well as on other topics related to the mission of the OAS, such as democracy, peace, equity, human rights, and development.
- 7. Member States approved a resolution establishing that the 55th Regular Session of the General Assembly will be held in Antigua and Barbuda on a date to be determined later by the OAS Permanent Council.
- 8. The Fifty-fourth regular session was closed by the President of the General Assembly and the OAS Secretary General. The President acknowledged the open and constructive dialogue, as well as the contributions of all delegations and the important participation of civil society. The Secretary General thanked all Member States for their commitment and collaboration during his tenure and invited them to continue working together over the next decades to advance democracy, human rights, security, and development in the Region.
- 9. The Table presented in the Annex provides a list of selected resolutions adopted during the 54th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly of relevance to the Governing Bodies of PAHO, as the specialized health agency of the inter-American system. The table links each OAS resolution to related PAHO mandates.

Action by the Directing Council

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

Annex

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

Resolutions of the OAS General Assembly	Linkage to PAHO Mandates
AG/DEC. 114 (LIV-O/24) Declaration of Asunción: Integration and Security for Sustainable Development in the Region	Report of the Commission on Equity and Health Inequalities in the Americas Document CD56/INF/8 (2018) Policy for Strengthening Health Sector Action on Climate Change with Equity Document CE174/14 (2024)¹ Policy for Strengthening Equity-Oriented Health Sector Action on Climate Change and Health Resolution CE174.R15 (2024)²
AG/RES. 3013 (LIV-O/24) Advancing Hemispheric Initiatives on Integral Development: Promoting Resilience	Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018–2030 Resolution CSP29.R2 (2017) Document CSP29/6, Rev. 3 (2017) Health of Migrants Resolution CD55.R13 (2016) Document CD55/11, Rev. 1 (2016)
AG/RES. 3017 (LIV-O/24) Promoting Connectivity and Technology for Resilient Socio-economic Development in the Americas	Roadmap for the Digital Transformation of the Health Sector in the Region of the Americas Resolution CD59.R1 (2021) Document CD59/6 (2021)
AG/RES. 3027 (LIV-O/24) Support for and Follow-up to the Summits of the Americas Process	Strategic Plan of the Pan American Health Organization 2020–2025 Resolution CD57.R2 (2019) Document OD359 (2019) Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018–2030 Resolution CSP29.R2 (2017) Document CSP29/6, Rev. 3 (2017)

¹ The final document will be approved by the 61st Directing Council of PAHO, 76th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas.

² The final resolution will be approved by the 61st Directing Council of PAHO, 76th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas.

Resolutions of the OAS General Assembly	Linkage to PAHO Mandates
AG/RES. 3028 (LIV-O/24) Promotion and Protection of Human Rights	Strategy for Improving Mental Health and Suicide Prevention in the Region of the Americas Resolution CD60.R12 (2023) Document CD60/9 (2023) Strategy and Plan of Action on Ethnicity and Health 2019–2025 Resolution CD57.R14 (2019) Document CD57/13, Rev.1 (2019) Plan of Action for Women's, Children's, and Adolescents' Health 2018–2030 Resolution CD56.R8 (2018) Document CD56/8, Rev.1 (2018) Addressing the Causes of Disparities in Health Service Access and Utilization for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Trans (LGBT) Persons Resolution CD52.R6 (2013) Document CD52/18 (2013)
AG/RES. 3032 (LIV-O/24) Convening of the Fifty-fifth Special Session of the General Assembly to Consider and Adopt the 2025 Program-Budget and Consider Administrative and Other Budgetary Matters	Program Budget of the Pan American Health Organization 2024–2025 Resolution CD60.R2 (2023) Document CD60/4 (2023) Strategic Plan of the Pan American Health Organization 2020–2025 Resolution CD57.R2 (2019) Document OD359 (2019)