



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



27th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE **59th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

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RESOLUTION

CSP27.R12

STRATEGY FOR STRENGTHENING VITAL AND HEALTH STATISTICS IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE AMERICAS

THE 27th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,

Having studied the document presented by the Director on the strategy for strengthening vital and health statistics in the countries of the Americas (Document CSP27/13);

Recognizing the importance of improving the coverage and quality of vital and health statistics to ensure more reliable and valid evidence for the design, implementation, and monitoring of health policies in the countries and following international recommendations;

Motivated by the need for better quality indicators at the subnational, national, and regional levels to monitor international commitments such as those established at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD, Cairo, 1994), the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), the declaration of the countries on the Millennium Development Goals (2000), the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance (Durban, 2001) and other specific commitments related to the human rights approach in access to information and evidence for policy-making;

Aware of the efforts to date to develop instruments for analyzing the state of statistics and of the regional situational diagnosis in the countries;

Recognizing that the Secretariat needs a permanent mechanism that will contribute to the strengthening of vital and health statistics in the countries of the Region, as recommended by the Regional Advisory Committee on Health Statistics in 2003, and that that mechanism should harmonize actions within and among the countries and coordinate activities within the Organization and with other international technical cooperation and financing agencies to promote efficient use of the available human, technical, and financial resources in the Region to strengthen statistics; and

Considering the importance of a strategy that will continuously and permanently serve as a guide for improving the coverage and quality of vital and health statistics in the countries of the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Member States to:
 - (a) Endorse, as appropriate, the strategy for strengthening vital and health statistics in the countries of the Americas, which will lead to the design of a plan of action that will promote better quality data and indicators with greater coverage for the design and monitoring of health policies;
 - (b) Promote the participation and coordination of national and sectoral statistics offices, civil registries, and other public and private actors/users in analyzing the state of national and subnational vital and health statistics and designing their plans of action;
 - (c) Coordinate with other countries in the Region implementation of the activities contained in their plans of action and the dissemination and use of tools that promote improved production of vital and health statistics.
2. To request the Director to:
 - (a) Work with the Member States in implementing the strategy according to their own national context and priorities and in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the plan of action, as well as in promoting the dissemination and use of the products derived from it in the subnational, national, and regional production of health information;
 - (b) Promote the channeling of corporate needs in terms of access to valid, reliable information for developing the Organization's plans and programs through the strategy, advancing toward the formulation of the plan of action;

- (c) Encourage coordination of the plan of action through similar initiatives by other international technical cooperation and financing agencies to strengthen statistics in the countries;
- (d) Identify the human resource, technology, and financial needs to guarantee the design and implementation of the plan of action for strengthening vital and health statistics in the countries of the Americas;
- (e) Periodically report to the Governing Bodies through the Executive Committee on the progress and constraints evaluated during implementation of the plan of action.

(Seventh plenary meeting, 4 October 2007)