

Resolution

CD61.R11

STRATEGY FOR STRENGTHENING THE ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH FUNCTIONS TO ACCELERATE HEALTH SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION 2024–2034

The 61st Directing Council,

Having reviewed the *Strategy for Strengthening the Essential Public Health Functions to Accelerate Health Systems Transformation 2024–2034* (Document CD61/9);

Mindful of the urgency to advance in the development of more resilient, equitable, and inclusive health systems based on primary health care (PHC);

Recognizing the case for a renewed focus on the essential public health functions (EPHF), given their central role in supporting the full exercise of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, addressing social determinants of health, ensuring universal access to integrated individual and collective health interventions, and fostering collaboration in the implementation of public health actions;

Acknowledging that achieving universal access to health and universal health coverage requires bolstering the leadership, stewardship, and governance capacities of health authorities;

Considering that action by Member States is essential to strengthen leadership, stewardship, and governance through a renewed emphasis on the EPHF,

Resolves:

1. To approve the *Strategy for Strengthening the Essential Public Health Functions to Accelerate Health Systems Transformation 2024–2034* (Document CD61/9).
2. To urge all Member States, considering their contexts, needs, vulnerabilities, and priorities, to:
 - a) promote the implementation of the strategic lines of action contained in the strategy;
 - b) strengthen leadership, stewardship, and governance for PHC-based health systems through the implementation of the EPHF at all decision-making levels;
 - c) strengthen capacity in the evaluation of the EPHF for improved policy and decision-making;

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- d) promote the institutionalization of standardized EPHF assessments, followed by systematic actions to incorporate findings into policy and investment priorities;
 - e) strengthen public health workforce competencies for the EPHF through policies, training, and collaborations.
3. To request the Director to:
- a) provide technical cooperation to Member States to support the implementation of the strategic lines of action contained in the strategy;
 - b) support regional cooperation and dialogue in health, facilitating the sharing of knowledge and experiences to enhance the capacities of Member States to evaluate and implement the EPHF effectively, as well as collaborative and intersectoral efforts to share best practices in health system strengthening based on PHC;
 - c) report periodically to the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization on the progress made and challenges faced in the implementation of the strategy through a progress report in 2029 and a final report in 2035.

(Seventh meeting, 3 October 2024)
