

directing council



PAN AMERICAN
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XXVII Meeting

regional committee

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

XXXII Meeting



INDEXED

Washington, D.C.
September-October 1980

Provisional Agenda Item 10

CD27/34 (Eng.)
13 August 1980
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

REGIONAL STRATEGIES OF HEALTH FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000

In the World Health Assembly and the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization the Member Governments have undertaken jointly to define and develop national and regional strategies for attaining the goal of Health for All by the Year 2000. In addition, the Governments of the Region decided to undertake the evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas 1971-1980 concomitantly with the formulation of those strategies.

To this end, and as part of the plan of work approved by the Executive Committee and the Directing Council of PAHO, 24 Governments have evaluated their national efforts to implement the Ten-Year Health Plan, and 22 countries have formulated national strategies.

As called for by the Governing Bodies, Document CD27/34 (1) has been based on the findings of the evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan and on the information provided by the Governments on their national strategies for attaining the goal. In keeping with Resolution VII of the 84th Meeting of the Executive Committee of PAHO, the document has been examined, amended, and expanded by the Subcommittee on Long-term Planning and Programming of the Executive Committee.

The task immediately ahead is now the drafting of proposals for strategies involving joint action by several countries and for regional machinery for supporting both national and intercountry strategies. These proposals will constitute the basis for the discussions to be held at the XXVII Meeting of the Directing Council.

(1) Distributed separately as Document CD27/34, Parts A and B.

RESOLUTION VII

FORMULATION OF REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR ATTAINING THE GOAL OF HEALTH FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having examined the Director's progress report on the work done by the Governments and the Secretariat of the Organization to evaluate the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas and to formulate strategies for attaining the goal of health for all by the year 2000;

Considering that, according to the plan of work approved at the 82nd Meeting of the Executive Committee, the Member Governments must jointly adopt the regional strategies that are to constitute the contribution of the Americas to the global strategies of WHO;

Considering that the Secretariat is preparing, on the basis of information furnished by the countries, a reference document of Hemispheric scope to provide the Governments with the background and other information they need for the formulation of their regional strategy proposals;

Cognizant that the national and regional strategies must be developed into national plans and programs and that these will serve as guideposts for the regional plans and programs; and

Bearing in mind that the national and regional strategies to be adopted by the Governments individually and collectively will determine the policies and priorities of PAHO's technical cooperation program,

RESOLVES:

1. To request the Governments to analyze the Hemispheric proposals submitted for their consideration in the reference material, and to formulate their regional strategy proposals in the setting of their own national situation.

2. To suggest to the Governments that they consider the possibility of adopting regional strategies in three categories: those common to the countries of the Region, those involving the participation of several countries, and those in support of the national and regional effort through the technical cooperation program.

3. To recommend to the Member Governments that these regional strategy proposals be examined and discussed during the XXVII Meeting of the Directing Council so that that Governing Body may adopt the strategies of the Region of the Americas for attaining the goal of health for all by the year 2000.

4. To urge Governments that have not yet done so to formulate their national strategies and forward them to the Director for inclusion in the working documents.

5. To request the Director to have the draft of the reference document prepared by the Secretariat examined by the Subcommittee on Long-term Planning and Programming of the Executive Committee, and subsequently transmitted, at the appropriate time, to the Member Governments.

6. To request the Director to continue to provide the cooperation which the Governments may require at this stage in the process.

(Approved at the fifth plenary session,
25 June 1980)

REPORT BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-TERM PLANNING AND
PROGRAMMING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF PAHO

REPORT BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-TERM PLANNING AND
PROGRAMMING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF PAHO

Joint Meeting with the Headquarters Program Committee
to Examine the Preliminary Text of the Reference Document
"Developments in the Health Sector in the 1971-1980 Decade and
Strategies for Attaining the Goal of Health for All by the Year 2000"

24-25-26 July, 1980
Washington, D.C.

The Executive Committee of PAHO at its 84th Meeting adopted Resolution VII regarding the formulation of Regional Strategies for Attaining the Goal of Health for All in the Year 2000. The Resolution, in its operative part, indicated that Governments should be requested to analyze the Hemispheric proposals submitted for their consideration in a reference document that would be prepared by the Secretariat and that, in the context of their own national situation, they should formulate their regional strategy proposals.

In the same resolution, the Director was requested to submit the draft of the reference document to the Subcommittee on Long-Term Planning and Programming of the Executive Committee, before transmitting it to the Member Governments.

For that purpose, the Subcommittee, consisting of Representatives of Canada, Chile and Guatemala, Mr. Michel Careau, (accompanied by Mr. Ian Inglis), and Dr. Nelson Vargas and Dr. Carlos Luis De Paredes Soley, respectively, all of whom were members of the 84th Executive Committee, held a joint meeting with the Headquarters Program Committee of the PASB (HPC) on 24, 25 and 26 July 1980, in Washington, D.C. The meeting was attended by two observers from the United States of America.

Dr. Johna Cohen, a member of the Director-General's Office in Geneva, received a special invitation to participate in the discussions.

The Director of the PASB presented the preliminary draft of the reference document entitled "Developments in the Health Sector in the 1971-1980 Decade and Strategies for Attaining the Goal of Health for All in the Year 2000," emphasizing that the reference material was the result of contributions from 24 Member States on the Evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas, and of the presentation by 21 Governments of the Region of their national strategies for attaining the goal of Health for All in the Year 2000.

It was stressed that the basic purpose of this meeting was to examine the preliminary draft in order to verify if it contained the appropriate information and considerations which might be useful to the Member States in formulating the proposals for regional strategies. It was also hoped that the Subcommittee would submit its recommendations to the XXVIII Directing Council in order to continue the process within the work plan approved at the 82nd Meeting of the Executive Committee (Resolution XIX).

It was decided to hold several joint sessions of the Subcommittee with the HPC. At the first session the Director made a brief presentation of the contents of the reference document. Among other things, he mentioned the background considerations which had been promoted by the Governments for the formulation of national, regional and global strategies.

The working draft consisted of two parts and three annexes. The first part contained a summary of the changes of the health situation and structure during the 1971-1980 decade given from a regional standpoint. It also dealt with the development of the national health services systems and environmental improvement, development of human resources, intersectoral linkages, financing for the sector and international cooperation. In addition, this part analyzed the major and most likely causes that have influenced the above processes.

The second part of the reference document presented a synthesis of the nature and ways by which the countries have defined the goal of Health for All in the Year 2000, as well as the main strategy and its components. This information was supplemented by an analysis of the probable socio-economic and demographic scenario for the next 20 years, and its implications for the development of the national and regional strategies to be adopted by the Member States. The annexes included information regarding the Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, the evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas and finally, the national strategies from 21 countries which had been received by the Secretariat before 15 July 1980.

The Subcommittee felt that each member should review the document individually, due to the fact that the draft had just been prepared and it had not been possible to distribute it beforehand. Thus, the Group decided that, after the presentation by the Director, and having heard comments on some of the more general aspects, they would proceed with the analysis of the second part of the preliminary draft, which concerns national and regional strategies for attaining the goal of health for all in the year 2000.

The Director offered the Subcommittee all the necessary assistance from the staff of the Organization, as well as any reference material mentioned in the document.

Once the Subcommittee members had individually reviewed the Document, three working sessions were held. The material was first considered from a general viewpoint, followed by a detailed examination of the different sections.

During the general discussion the Subcommittee members pointed out the excellence of the document in terms of methodology and structure. They also gave their opinions on its approach and content, and recommended to extend and to further elaborate some of its parts.

The Director emphasized that any suggestions on changes would have to take into consideration the fact that the second part of the document, specifically the one regarding the goal of Health for All by the Year 2000, the strategy of primary health care and the systematization of the strategies, had been prepared relying exclusively on the information submitted by Member States on their national strategies.

A question was raised on whether the Subcommittee should prepare an additional document or a supplementary one, or whether it should concentrate its efforts in formulating suggestions to improve the reference document. The second alternative was chosen, which involved a careful review by chapters of the first part of the document and by paragraphs and sections in the case of the second part. Specific suggestions were made, on the understanding that the Secretariat would incorporate them into the final version of the reference document.

At the final working session, the Subcommittee emphasized the important contribution made by the Secretariat in analyzing and systematizing the national strategies, enabling it to present a reference document which contained the vast and complex information provided by the Member States.

Finally, the Subcommittee concluded that the reference document that had been prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the material received from Member States, and with the changes recommended by the Subcommittee members as well as the ones suggested by the observers and PASB staff, represented an important working paper which the Member States should take into consideration in formulating the proposals for regional strategies. In addition, the Subcommittee decided to draft a Proposed Resolution on the regional strategies for attaining the goal of health for all in the year 2000, to be submitted to the XXVII Meeting of the Directing Council.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

THE DIRECTING COUNCIL:

Bearing in mind that the Ministers of Health of the Region of the Americas at their III Special Meeting in 1972 established as the main objective the extension of health services coverage to all underserved populations and to those who completely lacked such services, and that at their IV Special Meeting in 1977 they ratified and recognized "Primary Health Care" as the main strategy to achieve total coverage in the sectoral context of national socio-economic development;

Having reviewed Resolution WHA30.43 in which the World Health Assembly resolved that the main social goal of the Governments and WHO should be "the attainment by all the people of the world by the year 2000 of a level of health that will permit them to lead a socially, economically and productive life;"

Considering that the World Health Assembly in its Resolution WHA32.30 endorsed the Declaration of Alma Ata, which recognizes that Primary Health Care is the key to attain health for all in the year 2000 as part of general development, in the spirit of social justice, and urged Member States to define and to put into practice national, regional, and global strategies to attain such goal;

Recognizing that according to Resolution XXVIII of the XXIV Directing Council of PAHO, the final evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas should take place in 1980, and that given the commitment of the Governments of the Region to comply with Resolution WHA32.30 of the World Health Assembly on the formulation of regional strategies, the Executive Committee of PAHO at its 82nd meeting approved a plan of work contained in Resolution XIX, which joined in a single process the Evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan and the formulation of national and regional strategies;

Taking into consideration that attaining the goal for the year 2000 constitutes a dynamic process which creates new situations, and that therefore it is necessary to establish its evaluation and systematic monitoring in order to identify new problems and courses of action, and to adjust the strategies as part of this ongoing process;

Recognizing that there are problems which demand joint and synergic actions among several countries to ensure an efficient solution in the most effective manner, and knowing that the key to ensure the success of these initiatives lies on the evaluation by each country of its capacity to provide and utilize assistance, and on the national analysis and programming of external cooperation;

Considering that, in agreement with Resolution VII of the 84th Meeting of the Executive Committee, the Subcommittee on Long-Term

Planning and Programming revised the draft reference document prepared by the Secretariat, "Developments in the Health Sector in the 1971-1980 Decade, and Strategies for Attaining the Goal of Health for All in the Year 2000," incorporating modifications and elaborations to its contents in order to give the document greater consistency and coherence,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the document "Developments in the Health Sector in the 1971-1980 Decade, and Strategies for Attaining the Goal of Health for All in the Year 2000" which contains the regional strategies to attain the Goal of Health for All in the Year 2000.

2. To confirm that Primary Health Care and its components constitute the basic strategies to attain the Goal of Health for All in the Year 2000 in the Region of the Americas, which include: the extension of health services coverage and environmental improvement; community organization and participation; improvement of mechanisms for intersectoral linkages; development of research and appropriate technologies, human resources, and the availability and production of critical supplies and equipment; the establishment of national systems for financing the health sector, and reorienting international cooperation.

3. To consider that the regional strategies contained in the document constitute the basis for the Organization's policy and programming, and that they represent the contribution of the Region of the Americas to the global strategies of WHO.

4. To recommend to the Governments which have not yet done so,

- a) To adjust their health policies and plans and to make them compatible with national development policies and strategies, taking into consideration the implications of the national strategies adopted by them, and the regional strategies which they have agreed upon to attain the Goal of Health for All in the Year 2000;
- b) That is reorganizing the health sector, to include community participation, and to improve the linkages among the different components, of the sector, relating them to other development sectors;
- c) To develop the operative capacity of the health sector to maximize its efficiency, and the effectiveness of its activities, and to revise and to redefine its financing systems;
- d) To analyze and program the human, physical and financial resources needed to comply with the national programs,

thus ensuring the maximum efficiency and social relevance in their utilization;

- e) To direct the development of research and appropriate technologies in accordance with the needs of the national development process;
 - f) To improve national programming of international cooperation in the intersectoral context of each country;
 - g) To define within their external cooperation plans the areas in which TCDC may be applied, and to analyze and develop the national capacity in order to utilize and to provide cooperation, and to identify those problems whose solution might be facilitated by the joint action of the countries;
 - h) To develop their national planning, programming, information, control and evaluation systems; and
 - i) To review periodically their national strategies and to introduce the necessary adjustments within the context of national development.
5. To request the Director:
- a) To prepare a plan of action for the development of the strategies agreed upon, including technical and administrative support measures, promotion of the identification and mobilization of resources, research promotion, development of appropriate technologies and information exchange, promotion of intra- and intersectoral coordination within a monitoring and evaluation system for the above strategies;
 - b) To submit this plan of action to the XXVIII Meeting of the Directing Council;
 - c) To promote the use of TCDC, including its information systems;
 - d) To develop the necessary instruments and to take the appropriate initiatives to strengthen the technical cooperation and international coordination functions of the Organization; and
 - e) To adopt the necessary measures to improve the programming, information, control and evaluation system in relation to the Organization's short and medium-term program of technical cooperation.