

**WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ**

**REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DU PACIFIQUE OCCIDENTAL**

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

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Provisional agenda item 20.1

**CORRELATION OF THE WORK OF THE
WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
AND THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

**Consideration of resolutions of the Forty-seventh World Health Assembly
and the Executive Board at its ninety-third and ninety-fourth sessions**

Attached is resolution WHA47.27, International Decade of
the World's Indigenous People, adopted by the Forty-seventh
World Health Assembly in May 1994.



世界衛生大會 決議

مؤتمرات الصحة العالمية

RESOLUTION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
RÉSOLUTION DE L'ASSEMBLÉE MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ
РЕЗОЛЮЦИЯ ВСЕМИРНОЙ АССАМБЛЕИ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ
RESOLUCION DE LA ASAMBLEA MUNDIAL DE LA SALUD

FORTY-SEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA47.27

Agenda item 31.1

12 May 1994

International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

The Forty-seventh World Health Assembly,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 48/163 of 21 December 1993 which proclaimed the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, commencing on 10 December 1994, and requested specialized agencies to consider with Governments and indigenous people how they can contribute to the success of the Decade;

Recalling also that the resolution appealed to the specialized agencies to increase their efforts and, in particular, to take into account the needs of indigenous people in their budgeting and programming;

Noting that a goal of the Decade should be the strengthening of international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as health;

Mindful of the WHO's Health for All by the Year 2000 objective which seeks to help all citizens of the world to attain a level of health that will permit them to lead a socially and economically productive life;

Recalling resolution WHA45.24 which urged Member States to take specific steps to improve the health status of the most vulnerable population groups;

Recalling also the discussion of health and indigenous people which took place in Committee B at the Forty-sixth World Health Assembly;

Concerned that due recognition should be given to the value of indigenous people's knowledge and expertise in traditional medicines and practices and that indigenous health care be based on practical, socially and culturally acceptable methods and technology made universally accessible to individuals and families in their communities;

Noting the efforts already undertaken by the WHO Regional Office for the Americas;

Recalling resolution 1994/26 of the Commission of Human Rights of 4 March 1994 urging United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to designate focal points to liaise with the Centre for Human Rights on activities related to the Decade and to work in partnership with governments and indigenous people to develop and improve programmes that are beneficial to indigenous communities;

Concerned that WHO's expertise should benefit all people,

1. **AGREES** that WHO should participate in planning for, and implement the objectives of, the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;
2. **REQUESTS** the appropriate regional office to work, along with the governments of the Member States concerned, with indigenous people, including by establishing a core advisory group of indigenous representatives with special knowledge of the health needs and resources of their communities;
3. **CALLS** on the Director-General:
 - (1) to increase cooperation between WHO and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Centre for Human Rights, to help to meet health needs of indigenous people in the context of the Decade;
 - (2) to provide Member States with technical support to enable them to accelerate the implementation of their programmes for indigenous people;
 - (3) to assist governments and indigenous people to address indigenous health needs in a culturally effective manner;
 - (4) to consider the contribution WHO might make to promoting respect for, and maintenance of, indigenous knowledge, traditions and remedies, in particular, their pharmacopoeia;
 - (5) to ensure that relevant research projects undertaken by WHO and other specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system are conducted in consultation with, and for the benefit of, indigenous people and communities, such projects being undertaken by indigenous people themselves where appropriate;
4. **INVITES** Member States with indigenous populations to consider, where appropriate, designating a focal point for cooperation with their communities in all health related decisions that will impact on indigenous people.

Fourteenth plenary meeting, 12 May 1994
A47/VR/14

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