



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **47th DIRECTING COUNCIL**

### **58th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

*Washington, D.C., USA, 25-29 September 2006*

---

### ***RESOLUTION***

#### ***CD47.R18***

### **HEALTH OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THE AMERICAS**

#### ***THE 47th DIRECTING COUNCIL,***

Recognizing the progress achieved by the Health of the Indigenous Peoples Initiative and cognizant of the findings of the evaluation of the International Decade of Indigenous People of the World;

Taking note of the existence of inequities in health and access to health care services that affect more than 45 million indigenous people living in the Region of the Americas; and

Considering that the attainment of the internationally agreed-upon health-related development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, cannot be reached unless the specific health needs of excluded populations, such as the indigenous peoples, are addressed,

#### ***RESOLVES:***

1. To approve the proposed strategic lines of action for PAHO's technical cooperation on the health of the Indigenous Peoples in the Americas.
2. To urge Member States to:
  - (a) ensure the incorporation of indigenous peoples' perspectives into the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and national health policies;
  - (b) improve information and knowledge management on indigenous health issues to strengthen evidence-based decision-making and monitoring capacities in

- the Region;
- (c) integrate the intercultural approach into the national health systems of the Region as part of the primary health care strategy;
  - (d) develop, together with PAHO/WHO, strategic alliances with indigenous peoples and other stakeholders to further advance the health of the indigenous peoples;
  - (e) promote the training, education and leadership development of indigenous healers, and their incorporation in the health system formally, where appropriate;
  - (f) promote the incorporation of the intercultural approach in the curricula of all training and degree programs in areas of health and related fields and its implementation in all health institutions;
  - (g) promote the establishment of permanent mechanisms of consultation with indigenous communities for health decisions related to them;
  - (h) train human resources from the health system to act as intercultural facilitators.
3. To request the Director to:
- (a) support the development and implementation of the proposed strategic lines of action for PAHO's technical cooperation, including the opportunity for developing a Regional Plan for the Health of the Indigenous Peoples;
  - (b) advocate the mobilization of national and international resources to support efforts to improve the health of the indigenous peoples in the Region;
  - (c) ensure the inclusion of the proposed strategic lines of action into the Pan American Sanitary Bureau Strategic Plan 2008-1012 and promote their inclusion in the Ten-Year Health Agenda for the Americas.

*(Ninth Meeting, 29 September 2006)*