The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of the Secretariat;¹

Recalling resolution EB99.R14 which requested the Director-General to undertake a situation analysis of the existing network of WHO collaborating centres, and discussions of the Executive Board on the centres at its 101st and 104th sessions;

Reaffirming the essential role played by WHO collaborating centres in enabling the Organization to implement its mandate and programme objectives, to ensure the scientific validity of global health work, and to strengthen national and regional capacity for health development;

Recognizing the need to update the policy and procedures on WHO collaborating centres, so that optimum use can be made of this essential resource;

Having considered the draft amendments to the Regulations for Study and Scientific Groups, Collaborating Institutions and other Mechanisms of Collaboration contained in the report of the Secretariat,²

1. URGES Member States:

   (1) to identify and strengthen national institutions of high scientific and technical standing in the field of health and public health;

¹ Document EB105/21.
(2) to inform WHO of the existence of these centres of expertise;

(3) to make full use of WHO collaborating centres as sources of information, services and expertise, and to strengthen their own national capacity for training, research and collaboration for health development;

2. WELCOMES the Director-General’s intention to take the action required to give effect to the conclusions and recommendations of the review of collaborating centres, including those regarding the use of “national institutions recognized by WHO”;

3. ENCOURAGES collaborating centres to develop working relations with other centres and national institutions recognized by WHO, in particular by setting up or joining collaborative networks with WHO’s support;

4. APPROVES for immediate application the amendments to the Regulations for Study and Scientific Groups, Collaborating Institutions and other Mechanisms of Collaboration.

Seventh meeting, 27 January 2000
EB105/SR/7

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