The Executive Board,

Conscious that the Pan American Health Organization is celebrating its centenary in the year 2002,

RECOMMENDS to the Fifty-fifth World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Fifty-fifth World Health Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the Pan American Health Organization is the oldest international health organization in existence, since it was founded by the Republics of the Americas in December 1902, and has worked uninterruptedly on behalf of the health of its peoples since that time;

Recalling that since 1949 the Pan American Health Organization has acted as the Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization;

Considering the role played by the Pan American Health Organization in the past 100 years in the noteworthy improvement that can be seen in health in the Region of the Americas;

Aware of the leadership displayed by the Pan American Health Organization, together with Member States, in the eradication of smallpox and poliomyelitis, and in the significant reduction of cases of measles, almost eliminating it, among other achievements in the Americas in the course of the last 100 years,

RESOLVES:

(1) to congratulate the Pan American Health Organization on attaining the first centenary of its foundation in this year 2002;

(2) to congratulate the Member States of the Americas on the results obtained in improvement of its peoples’ health during the past century;
(3) to encourage the Member States of the Pan American Health Organization to redouble their efforts to achieve equity in health matters, and to promote the spirit of unity as evidence of the Panamericanism characteristic of the Region during the past 100 years; and

(4) to thank the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization for their close cooperation, dedication, leadership and contributions to the health of the peoples of the Americas.

Eighth meeting, 17 January 2002
EB109/SR/8