



THIRTY-EIGHTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

SECOND REPORT OF COMMITTEE A

(DRAFT)

During its tenth meeting held on 15 May 1985, Committee A decided to recommend to the Thirty-eighth World Health Assembly the adoption of the attached resolution relating to the following agenda item:

22. Proposed programme budget for the financial period 1986-1987

22.2 Programme policy matters

One resolution has been adopted under this agenda item:

Prevention of deafness and hearing impairment



PREVENTION OF DEAFNESS AND HEARING IMPAIRMENT

The Thirty-eighth World Health Assembly,

Recognizing that the attainment of health for all requires increased activity for the prevention of hearing impairment, which affects at least 8% of the population in every country, and of deafness, which is estimated to afflict 70 million people in the world;

Recognizing also that in developing countries most of the hearing impairment, which occurs in excessive prevalence in some communities, results from causes that can be prevented at the primary health level, and that much of the deafness is reversible or remediable;

Aware of the international action being taken to limit the misuse of ototoxic agents and to reduce noise-induced occupational deafness;

Aware also of the rapid advance of technology in otolaryngology and audiology and of the development in some countries of mass treatment programmes using techniques appropriate for the control of hearing impairment and deafness;

Welcoming the readiness of the international nongovernmental organizations to coordinate their activities in support of global, regional and national programmes for the prevention of hearing impairment and deafness;

REQUESTS the Director-General, in collaboration with governments and appropriate nongovernmental organizations, to assess the extent, causes and consequences of hearing impairment and deafness in all countries, and to make proposals to the Thirty-ninth World Health Assembly for strengthening measures of prevention and treatment within existing programmes of health and development.

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