



# WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

FIFTY-THIRD WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

(Draft) A53/37  
19 May 2000

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## Second report of Committee B

(Draft)

Committee B held its third meeting on 18 May 2000 under the chairmanship of Miss F.-Z. Chaib (Algeria) and Mr L. Rokovada (Fiji).

It was decided to recommend to the Fifty-third World Health Assembly the adoption of the attached two resolutions relating to the following agenda items:

15. Legal issues

- Participation by WHO in the 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations

One resolution

17. Collaboration within the United Nations system and with other intergovernmental organizations

One resolution entitled:

- International decade of the world's indigenous people

## **Agenda item 15**

### **Participation of WHO in the 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations**

The Fifty-third World Health Assembly,

Acknowledging that the United Nations General Assembly, by resolution 53/100 of 8 December 1998, encouraged international organizations that have signed the 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations, to deposit an act of formal confirmation of the Convention at an early date;

Having considered the report on the subject;<sup>1</sup>

Bearing in mind that the entry into force of the Convention would safeguard the legal interests of both States and international organizations, including WHO;

Wishing to support, within its area of competence, promotion of the acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law, which was one of the purposes of the United Nations Decade of International Law,

AUTHORIZES the Director-General to deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations an act of formal confirmation of the 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations, in conformity with Article 83 of the Convention.

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<sup>1</sup> See document EB105/2000/REC/1, Annex 6.

## **Agenda item 17**

### **International decade of the world's indigenous people**

The Fifty-third World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolutions WHA47.27, WHA48.24, WHA49.26, WHA50.31 and WHA51.24 on WHO's contribution to achievement of the objectives of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1994-2003);

Further recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 50/157, which adopted the programme of activities for the International Decade, in which it is recommended that "specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other international and national agencies, as well as communities and private enterprises, should devote special attention to development activities of benefit to indigenous communities"; that focal points for matters concerning indigenous people should be established in all appropriate organizations of the United Nations system; and that the governing bodies of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system should adopt programmes of action for the Decade in their own field of competence, "in close cooperation with indigenous people";

Commending the progress made in the Region of the Americas on the Initiative on the Health of Indigenous People of the Americas;

Taking note of the conclusions and recommendations of the International Consultation on the Health of Indigenous Peoples (Geneva, 23 to 26 November 1999),

1. URGES Member States:

- (1) to make adequate provisions for indigenous health needs in their national health systems;
- (2) to recognize and protect the right of indigenous people to enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health within overall national development policies;
- (3) to respect, preserve and maintain traditional healing practices and remedies, and to seek to ensure that indigenous people retain this traditional knowledge and its benefits;

2. REQUESTS WHO's regional committees to consider the adoption of regional action plans on indigenous health that take into account the conclusions and recommendations of the International Consultation on the Health of Indigenous people;

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) to ensure that all WHO activities relevant to indigenous people are undertaken in close partnership with them;
- (2) to collaborate with partners in health and development for the protection and promotion of the right of the world's indigenous people to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health;

(3) to complete, in close consultation with national governments and organizations of indigenous people, development of a global plan of action to improve the health of indigenous people, with particular emphasis on the needs of those in developing countries, as WHO's contribution to the Decade and beyond.

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