

Centenary of the Pan American Health Organization

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 their peoples since that time;

Recalling that since 1949 the Pan American Health Organization has served 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 measles, which is close to elimination, 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 improvements in their peoples' health achieved 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, in the spirit of unity that has characterized panamericanism of the Region during the past 100 years;

(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.

Third plenary meeting, 14 May 2002
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