



21 January 1982

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Sixty-ninth Session

Agenda item 17.2

POLICY ON PATENTS

(Draft resolution proposed by the Rapporteurs)



The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on relations with industry and policy on patents;¹

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

The Thirty-fifth World Health Assembly,

Recognizing the need for affirmative action to make health care resources available to all and the role of financial incentives in the development of health technology that is not at present available;

Convinced that, in contributing to the development of health technology, WHO should seek to ensure its wide availability to Member States at reasonable cost;

DECIDES that it shall be the policy of WHO to obtain patents or interests in patents on patentable health technology developed through projects supported by WHO, and that the Organization will use its patent rights, and any financial or other benefits associated therewith, to promote the development, production, and wide availability of health technology in the public interest.

¹ Document EB69/20.