

THIRTY-SEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA37.13

Agenda item 19

15 May 1984

THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION IN THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR
HEALTH FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000

The Thirty-Seventh World Health Assembly,

Having considered the Director-General's Report on the Spiritual Dimension in the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000¹ and the recommendation of the Executive Board thereon contained in Resolution EB73.R3;

Understanding the spiritual dimension to imply a phenomenon that is not material in nature but belongs to the realm of ideas, beliefs, values and ethics that have arisen in the minds and conscience of human beings, particularly ennobling ideas;

1. THANKS the Director-General for his report and the Executive Board for its recommendation;
2. CONCURS with the reflections contained in the report;
3. NOTES that ennobling ideas have given rise to health ideals which have led to a practical strategy for health for all that aims at attaining a goal that has both a material and non-material component;
4. RECOGNIZES that if the material component of the strategy can be provided to people, the non-material or spiritual one is something that has to arise within people and communities in keeping with their social and cultural patterns;
5. CONSIDERS that the realization of the health ideals that form the moral basis of the goal of health for all by the year 2000 will itself contribute to people's feelings of well-being;
6. REALIZING that the spiritual dimension plays a great role in motivating peoples' achievement in all aspects of life;
7. ASSERTS in consequence that ennobling ideas have not only stimulated worldwide action for health but have also given to health, as defined in WHO's Constitution, an added spiritual dimension;
8. INVITES Member States to consider including in their strategies for health for all a spiritual dimension as defined in this resolution in accordance with their social and cultural patterns.

Twelfth plenary meeting, 15 May 1984
A37/VR/12

¹ Document EB73/1984/REC/1, Annex 1.