



16 May 1989

FORTY-SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Agenda item 18.2

THE HEALTH OF YOUTH

Draft resolution proposed by the delegations of Bangladesh, Canada, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, France, Hungary, Iceland, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Malta, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Samoa, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Republic of Tanzania

The Forty-second World Health Assembly,

Having reviewed the background document and report on the Technical Discussions on the Health of Youth;

Recognizing that the health of youth represents a critical component for the health of future generations and for health development in general, and that both the current and future health of young people depend very much on their own actions, choices and behaviour;

Aware that, although the extent of the health problems of youth - such as accidental injuries, nutritional imbalances, sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy before biological or social maturity, the abuse of substances including tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, and psychosocial difficulties - may vary widely in different societies, the essential origins of the problems and the need for healthy development among young people are common to all countries, both developed and developing;

Concerned at the high rate of unemployed young people, in Member States, and of its consequences for their health and integration into society;

Noting that although the promotion of young people's health requires action in many quarters, the role of the health sector is central in the mobilization of efforts to meet the health needs of adolescents and youth and to encourage the contribution of young people to the goal of health for all;

Recognizing the critical role of nongovernmental organizations, particularly those for and of youth, and the innovative approaches that many of these organizations have already generated;

Recalling resolutions WHA27.28, WHA29.55, WHA31.57, WHA33.35, WHA32.40, WHA37.23 and WHA38.22;

1. URGES Member States:

- (1) to give appropriate priority to the health needs of adolescents and youth;
- (2) to provide the resources and facilities necessary to assess critically the health situation and needs of adolescents and youth, and identify major factors that may influence their current and future health, including policies and programmes in health and other sectors;

