



16 May 1989

FORTY-SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Agenda item 18.2

WOMEN'S HEALTH

Draft resolution proposed by the delegations of Botswana, Brazil,  
Cape Verde and Mozambique

The Forty-second World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolutions WHA28.40, WHA29.43, WHA31.37, WHA36.21 and WHA40.27;

Recognizing the importance of an integrated approach to the health of women and the crucial role of women in development;

Concerned that the physical, social and mental health of women continues to be threatened by discrimination, by deteriorating social and economic circumstances, and insufficient priority being given to the development and maintenance of relevant health and social services for women;

Cognizant of the need to ensure that a woman's perspective is reflected in the policies and programmes of the health and other sectors affecting the health of women, and that effective non-discriminatory implementation and enforcement are required even for those policies and programmes that already exist;

Recognizing that societies have placed the full burden of their reproductive needs on women, but have all too often failed to provide them with adequate technical and social support, and have yet to make a commitment to safe motherhood;

1. URGES Member States:

- (1) to recognize the social significance and implications of women's health;
- (2) to examine the health, social, cultural and economic circumstances of women and to implement an integrated and comprehensive approach on the basis of this analysis, including in the process the full participation of women;
- (3) to utilize actively the experience, expertise and common concerns of nongovernmental organizations, particularly those of obstetricians and gynaecologists, midwives and nurses, as well as women's groups in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of programmes for women's health;
- (4) to ensure that the health and social services necessary to sustain women's health are accessible to all on a non-discriminatory basis;

2. REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) to continue to assist Member States in their efforts to ensure adequate and equitable health care for women by strengthening the Organization's technical support at all levels, particularly in the areas of research and research training in human reproduction, maternal and child health including family planning, and women's health and development;

