



**World Health Organization
Organisation mondiale de la Santé**

FORTY-SEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Provisional agenda item 19

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**Report on progress in implementing
resolution WHA45.24
Health and development**

The purpose of this report which was also submitted to the Executive Board at its ninety-third session is to inform the Health Assembly of activities undertaken to implement resolution WHA45.24 on "Health and development". The Health Assembly is invited to take note of the report. No further action is sought at this time.

1. Resolution WHA45.24 on health and development focused attention on the intolerable health situation of the most vulnerable groups, which experience unnecessary pain and suffering from preventable diseases, economic deprivation, social isolation, violence, abuse and war. The health situation of these vulnerable groups, which are found in all societies throughout the world, constitutes a violation of their fundamental right to health as defined in the Constitution of the World Health Organization.
2. Certain economic development policies and strategies have contributed to the creation of new vulnerable groups and have not been able to resolve the spectrum of health issues which confront vulnerable populations.
3. In response to resolution WHA45.24, the Director-General established a Task Force on Health and Development Policies for the period 1993-1995 with the following terms of reference:
 - (a) study existing development policies, strategies and programmes throughout the world to determine which factors enhance or hinder the promotion and improvement of health status;
 - (b) analyse health status indicators and their relation to economic development, with emphasis on the situation of the most vulnerable groups;
 - (c) examine alternative funding mechanisms which would help countries evaluate the interaction of health status and economic development strategies;
 - (d) explore ways and means of improving access to basic education, credit facilities for small industries, and other means of assisting countries to improve the health status and protect the health rights of vulnerable groups;
 - (e) recommend appropriate arrangements for the protection of basic health as a human right and, in consultation with all partners concerned, initiate a process of education and consensus-building to ensure that health status is protected in the development process.

