



FIFTIETH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA50.31

Agenda item 27.1

13 May 1997

## International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

The Fiftieth World Health Assembly,

Recalling the role of WHO in planning for and implementing the objectives of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People as recognized in resolutions WHA47.27, WHA48.24 and WHA49.26;

Further recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 50/157, which adopted the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, in which it is recommended that "specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other international and national agencies, as well as communities and private enterprises, should devote special attention to development activities of benefit to indigenous communities", that the United Nations system should establish focal points for matters concerning indigenous people in all appropriate organizations, and that the governing bodies of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system should adopt programmes of action for the Decade in their own fields of competence, "in close cooperation with indigenous people";

Recognizing with satisfaction the progress made in the Initiative on the Health of Indigenous People of the Americas;

Noting the recent report by the Director-General to the Executive Board;<sup>1</sup>

Noting with appreciation the activities of the focal point for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) to continue to facilitate the work of the focal point for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;
- (2) to submit to the Fifty-first World Health Assembly a report reviewing progress in finalizing a comprehensive programme of action for the Decade, developed in consultation with national governments and organizations of indigenous people;

---

<sup>1</sup> Document EB99/23.

(3) to further encourage countries to develop health programmes for indigenous people, taking into account both the need for active participation at the local level in the whole health process, and the need for cultural sensitivity of health services and the participation of health care workers of indigenous origin.

Ninth plenary meeting, 13 May 1997  
A50/VR/9

= = =