



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



**42nd DIRECTING COUNCIL**  
**52nd SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

Washington, D.C., 25-29 September 2000

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***RESOLUTION***

***CD42.R11***

**DRUG REGULATORY HARMONIZATION**

***THE 42nd DIRECTING COUNCIL,***

Having considered the Director's report (Document CD42/13) on drug regulatory harmonization in the Americas;

Taking into account that the drug regulatory harmonization processes are fundamental for guaranteeing the safety, efficacy, and quality of drugs;

Recognizing that other regions and subregional groups of countries in the Americas with different levels of development are making efforts at the global level to move forward with drug regulatory harmonization;

Aware that, through its plans of work, the Pan American Network for Drug Regulatory Harmonization will represent a concrete regional option for this process; and

Observing that drug regulatory harmonization offers health, economic, and technical advantages for the countries committed to its implementation,

***RESOLVES:***

1. To urge the Member States to:
  - (a) review the current drug policies, with a view to adopting new policies that will ensure access to drugs that are safe, effective, and of acceptable quality;

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- (b) strengthen the infrastructure currently in place for regulating drugs to permit regulation that is expeditious but technically acceptable;
  - (c) support national implementation of the agreements and recommendations arising out of the Pan American Network for Drug Regulatory Harmonization.
2. To request the Director to:
- (a) support the establishment of the Pan American Network for Drug Regulatory Harmonization and strengthen the role of PAHO as its Secretariat;
  - (b) promote progress toward technical agreements on drug regulation among the Member States, including multilateral, bilateral, and subregional agreements, with the participation of all sectors and interest groups;
  - (c) promote the search for sources of financing for this process and the plan of work.

*(Eighth meeting, 28 September 2000)*