



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



17th DIRECTING COUNCIL
19th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 2 – 12 October 1967

RESOLUTION

CD17.R22

STATUS OF SMALLPOX ERADICATION IN THE AMERICAS

THE 17th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having considered the report of the Director on the status of smallpox eradication in the Americas (Document CD17/11);¹

Bearing in mind the previous resolutions of the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization and of the World Health Organization on this subject; and

Noting that, although progress has been made in some countries in which eradication has been achieved after intensive vaccination campaigns, the disease still represents an important problem in certain areas, and that there exist in the Americas endemic foci that constitute a paramount threat to the life and health of their populations,

RESOLVES

1. To take note of the report on the status of the smallpox eradication in the Americas (Document CD17/11).
2. To reaffirm that smallpox eradication in the Americas is one of the major objectives of PAHO, as part of the worldwide program for the purpose.

3. To recommend to the ministries of health of those countries in which the disease is still present and which have not yet launched eradication campaigns that they make every necessary effort to surmount any administrative and financial difficulties that may exist and that they give the smallpox eradication program the high priority it deserves.
4. To recommend that neighboring, and particularly contiguous, countries coordinate their smallpox activities and/or eradication campaigns in order to reduce the risk of the spread of the disease between their respective territories during the course of such activities.
5. To recommend to all the Governments that they maintain a high level of immunization and a constant vigilance against the introduction or reintroduction of the disease.
6. To express its thanks to the countries of the Hemisphere that have so generously donated smallpox vaccine to countries that need it.
7. To recommend to the Governments that special attention be paid to the preparation of smallpox vaccines that meet the international standards established by the World Health Organization, and to urge them to make appropriate use of the services of the reference laboratories of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.
8. To emphasize the need for PASB to continue to coordinate the continental smallpox eradication program; to provide the Governments that request them with technical advisory services in planning, operations, research, and personnel training; and to furnish them with vaccine, supplies, and equipment, subject to the availability of budgetary funds.

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