

POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY

"PAHO IN THE 21ST CENTURY"

We agree:

- **That the process is alive and fully under way;**
- **To continue to be broadly participatory, creating a new design for a new functional and structurally appropriate PAHO to confront the new challenges of the new millennium;**
- **That the excellence built into the new design resulting from the entire process will be:**
 1. **Based on a well-founded assessment and on a clear identification of the challenges facing PAHO;**
 2. **Concrete, viable, and result in change; and**
 3. **Developed jointly by consensus.**

PAHO's Mission in the 21st Century

To participate in the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of national policies, providing support and orientation to the countries in the building of networks to address technical areas or specific problems.

PAHO must serve as a between among the Member States and partner agencies working in the countries within their sphere of action, honing its approach in health-related issues that are not currently areas of influence.

Paraguay Proposal

PAHO Vision for the 21st Century – Paraguay Proposal –

- Promote international leadership in health, operating with internal and external transparency and accountability;
- Regulate and intervene in the system, which will foster: sustainability, leadership, and authority to face public health challenges;
- Manage and coordinate the NGO system in order to ensure coherent and consensus-based global, regional, and national agendas;
- Optimize resources under a financial management system strengthened by the increased participation of Member States in monitoring and evaluation, using clear criteria for the effective and equitable allocation of financial resources;
- Promote responsible, interactive coordination among Member Countries;
- Exercise its authority and functions on behalf of the Member States and express the collective will to improve health in the Americas;
- Strengthen the capacity of PAHO Representative offices and the Member States of the Region;
- Promote democratized work processes based on broad consensus;
- Establish firm partnerships and associations that contribute to their sustainability; and
- Promote a greater presence of PAHO in WHO.

PAHO Values for the 21st Century

– Paraguay Proposal –

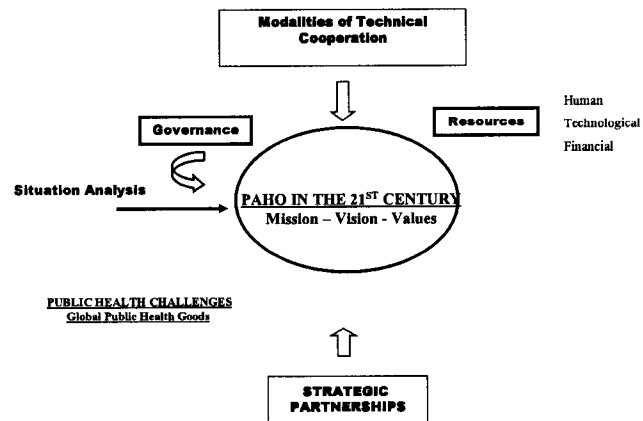
Human rights.
Participatory democracies.
Solidarity and the common good.
Equal opportunity for all.
Social justice and equity.
Comprehensiveness, cultural adaptation, and humanization.
Efficiency, effectiveness, technical and human quality.
Legitimacy, governance, and sustainability.
Honesty and transparency in management.
Cultural diversity and pluralism.
Absence of stigma and discrimination.
Co-responsibility between Government and civil society, with the participation of individuals, families, and communities.

Nature and Characteristics of this Proposal for Progress Identified by Paraguay

The following have been identified:

- Public health challenges of the 21st century.
- Global public health goods.
- Governance.
- Resources (financial, technological, and human).
- Modalities of technical cooperation and strategic partnerships.

Nature and Characteristics of this Proposal for Progress Identified by Paraguay

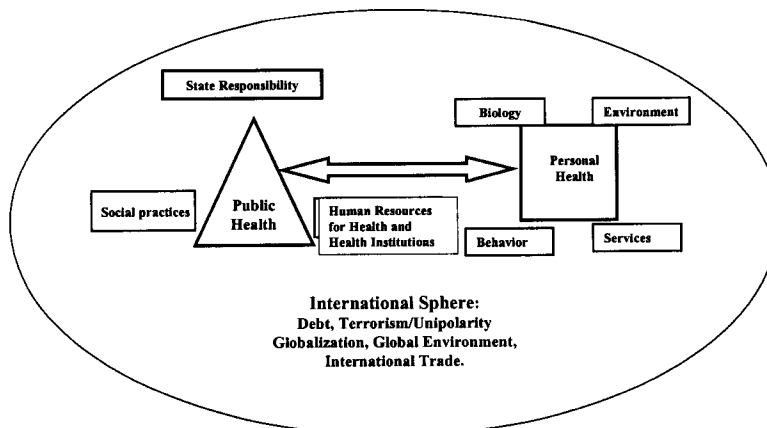


Public Health Challenges in the 21st Century Paraguay Proposal

- **Future Determinants:**
 - Opportunities to improve the health of the population (i.e., globalization, developments in science/technology, bioethics, and intellectual property).
 - The explanatory model of **Public Health** is three-dimensional and holds that public health depends on the State assuming responsibility for the performance of the Essential Public Health Functions (EPHF), the behavior or attitudes of the population, and the actions of human health resources and the health services systems.
 - The greatest challenge lies in bringing the efforts of the State, the community, human health resources, and the health service systems together to achieve this favorable scenario, through intelligent interventions based on local capacity.
 - Personal health: The proper use of human genome studies and genomic medicine, stem cells, biotechnology, and genetic engineering will lower the risk of people becoming ill due to hereditary, metabolic, and neoplastic factors.

Public Health Challenges in the 21st Century – Paraguay Proposal –

The diagram below shows the relationship between the public and personal health models:



**Situation in Specific Areas:
Primary Problems and Issues Identified by Paraguay**

- **Health Trends**
 - Development of multilateral and multisectoral partnerships that have diversified health interventions. The State is no longer the only actor who designs, implements, and evaluates policies.
 - The significant growth of international organizations working in health can *weaken* the role of PAHO. As a result the Organization should confront this challenge with strategic intelligence.
- **Internal Situation**
 - Difficulties regarding the representativeness of the Executive Committee and its channels of communication with the Member States and the Bureau;
 - Distribution of budgetary allocations and collection of quota contributions;
 - Administrative and operational efficiency;
 - Identification of multiple areas for improving management.

**Situation in Specific Areas:
Primary Problems and Issues Identified by Paraguay**

- **Internal Situation**
 - In the area of human resources, there is recognized the need for better qualified staff in the countries who possess the necessary skills to function in the specific situation of the country or subregion.
 - The policy of hiring consultants at Headquarters and in the countries, opportunities for women to obtain positions in management, career development, the necessary generational change, and the decentralization of Headquarters staff to the countries, based on the needs for the Member Countries and Representative Offices.

Strategy for Change and Development – Paraguay Proposal –

- **To Strengthen Governance and the Management Model:**
 - Joint identification and characterization (Member States-Secretariat) of the Regional Public Health Goods most required by the countries;
 - Regional Centers and Representative Offices can apply an integrated approach and a shared program to avoid the overlapping of efforts and to achieve the pooling of all resources to address country needs and regional priorities and meet global objectives;
 - The Representative Office should be the primary coordinator and executor of country programs;
 - Programs at Headquarters and Regional Centers should be designed and executed in coordination with national programs and the programs of the Representative Offices.
 - Decentralization of human resources toward the Representative Offices.
- **To Build Capacity (Human Resources):**
 - Operations at PAHO Headquarters should be linked to the needs of the countries and regions;
 - Need for personnel profiles at Headquarters and in the countries that address the geographical, ethnic, and cultural diversity of the Region.

Strategy for Change and Development – Paraguay Proposal –

- **To Strengthen the Capacity to Forge Partnerships:**
 - Partnership development.
 - External partnerships that seek some form of support from the Organization;
 - Integration with other sectors (i.e., education) and organizations that share health-related objectives.
- **To Improve Technical Cooperation in Health: New Modalities of Technical Cooperation and the Strengthening of Cooperation at the Country Level:**
 - We recommend that PAHO adopts a strategy to support the countries in the identification and use of “best practices,” promoting cooperation among them.
 - PAHO can cooperate with the countries with a view to helping them conduct an internal evaluation and establish where to channel funds and international cooperation.