

## 54th DIRECTING COUNCIL

### 67th SESSION OF THE WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE AMERICAS

Washington, D.C., USA, from 28 September to 2 October 2015

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*Provisional Agenda Item 7.6*

CD54/INF/6  
13 July 2015  
Original: Spanish

#### **B. FORTY-FIFTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

1. This document presents the resolutions of relevance for the activities of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) that were adopted during the 45th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), held at its Washington, D.C. headquarters from 15 to 16 June 2015. The agenda, details of the documents, and resolutions can be accessed at: <http://www.oas.org/en/45ga/>.

2. The meeting was attended by the ministers of foreign affairs of the Member States of the Americas and other official delegates. Also in attendance were the representatives of the governments accredited as Permanent Observers and those of the agencies of the Inter-American system, including PAHO and the entities that comprise the Summit Implementation Review Group. Haiti's Minister of Foreign Affairs was elected President of this regular session of the General Assembly.

3. The theme of this General Assembly was "Present and Future of the OAS." During the Assembly, the heads of delegation expressed their support for and confidence in the new Secretary General, Luis Almagro, and offered recommendations for the renewal of the OAS, emphasizing the importance of the Organization's financial sustainability.

4. The recommendations and resolutions of this session had been discussed and agreed upon by the Permanent Council and included a resolution on the modernization and reorganization of the General Secretariat in accordance with the strategic vision and for the strengthening of the Inter-American system.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [AG/RES 2876 \(XLV-O/15\)](#)

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5. Notable among the eight resolutions adopted by the General Assembly during this session was the approval by the OAS Member States of the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons, which to date has been signed by the governments of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, and Uruguay. For the Convention to enter into force, a minimum of two signatory countries must have ratified it.

6. The purpose of the Convention—the first international instrument of its kind in world—is to promote, protect, and ensure the recognition and the full enjoyment and exercise, on an equal basis, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of older persons, in order to contribute to their full and active inclusion, integration, and participation in society. The Convention urges the Member States to adopt the legislative measures or other provisions that may be necessary to give effect to the human rights and freedoms of older persons. These include access to palliative care, independence and autonomy, a life free from violence, the enjoyment of good health and active aging, special protection in residences and services that provide long-term care, the right to give free and informed consent on health matters, to make decisions, and to expressly indicate in advance their will. Since 2012, PAHO, as the specialized health agency of the Inter-American system, advised the OAS working group charged with drafting this convention.

7. The resolutions selected are those of interest to the Governing Bodies of PAHO and related to its work as the specialized health agency of the Inter-American system.

8. The 46th Regular Session of the General Assembly will be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, on 13 and 14 June 2016.

#### **Action by the Directing Council**

9. The Directing Council is invited to take note of this report.

Annex

## Annex

Resolutions adopted by the 45th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly of relevance for PAHO<sup>1</sup> activities

Resolutions of the OAS General Assembly	Relation to PAHO activities
<p data-bbox="367 600 667 632"><a href="#">AG/RES.2878 (XL-0/15)</a></p> <p data-bbox="285 648 748 709">PLAN OF ACTION OF THE SOCIAL CHARTER OF THE AMERICAS</p>	<p data-bbox="824 564 1292 625">Linkage with the <a href="#">Health Agenda for the Americas</a></p> <p data-bbox="824 663 1321 724">Linkage with the <a href="#">Strategic Plan of the Pan American Health Organization 2014-2019</a></p>
<p data-bbox="350 919 683 951"><a href="#">AG/RES. 2875 (XLV-O/15)</a></p> <p data-bbox="256 968 777 1060">INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON PROTECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS</p>	<p data-bbox="824 810 1354 921">Linkage with the healthy lifecourse program: “Health and Aging” (Resolution <a href="#">CSP26.R20</a> [2002])</p> <p data-bbox="824 942 1385 1035">“Plan of Action on the Health of Older Persons, Including Active and Healthy Aging” (Resolution <a href="#">CD49.R15</a> [2009])</p> <p data-bbox="824 1077 1268 1138">Linkage with the Program on Gender, Diversity, and Human Rights:</p> <p data-bbox="824 1159 1175 1220">“Health and Human Rights” (Resolution <a href="#">CD50.R8</a> [2010])</p>

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from the resolutions adopted by the OAS Secretariat. Available at: <http://scm.oas.org/ag/documentos/Index.htm#VolumenAP>