

168th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Virtual Session, 21-25 June 2021

CE168.R12
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RESOLUTION

CE168.R12

STRATEGY FOR BUILDING RESILIENT HEALTH SYSTEMS AND POST-COVID-19 PANDEMIC RECOVERY TO SUSTAIN AND PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH GAINS

THE 168th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having reviewed the proposed *Strategy for Building Resilient Health Systems and Post-COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery to Sustain and Protect Public Health Gains* (Document CE168/15),

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the 59th Directing Council adopt a resolution along the following lines:

STRATEGY FOR BUILDING RESILIENT HEALTH SYSTEMS AND POST-COVID-19 PANDEMIC RECOVERY TO SUSTAIN AND PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH GAINS

THE 59th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having reviewed the *Strategy for Building Resilient Health Systems and Post-COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery to Sustain and Protect Public Health Gains* (Document CD59/__);

Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted health, lives, and livelihoods in the Region of the Americas;

Considering that action by Member States is required to address the systemic and structural deficiencies in health systems and emergency preparedness and response that have been exposed by the pandemic, and aware of the potential benefits to be realized by rapidly adopting and consolidating health system innovations observed during the pandemic response;

Noting the urgency to invest and build resilience in health systems that fully address the social, environmental, and economic determinants of health as a means to protect, promote, and sustain health, advance social and economic development, and accelerate the recuperation of lost public health gains,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the *Strategy for Building Resilient Health Systems and Post-COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery to Sustain and Protect Public Health Gains* (Document CD59/__).
2. To urge Member States, taking into account their contexts, needs, vulnerabilities, and priorities, to:
 - a) strengthen leadership, governance, and stewardship to implement the strategic lines of action of the Strategy for Building Resilient Health Systems;
 - b) advance in transforming health systems based on the primary health care approach, inclusive social participation, and a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, with intersectoral action to address the social, environmental, and economic determinants of health;
 - c) measure the institutional capacities of health authorities to perform essential public health functions and develop sectoral and intersectoral action plans to strengthen these functions, integrated into the country policy and budget cycle;
 - d) build and expand the capacities of health service delivery networks to improve access and overcome fragmentation, including capacities for management and coordination of the networks, planning and management of human resources, digital transformation and strengthening of information systems for health, availability and management of critical supplies, medicines, and other health technologies and infrastructure, community engagement, and the development of adaptable response plans;
 - e) increase and sustain public investments in health to support the transformation and strengthening of health systems toward the achievement of universal health, paying due attention to the development of capacities for implementation of the essential public health functions, including compliance with the International Health Regulations; and prioritize investments in the first level of care to support the delivery of comprehensive health services (both individual and population-based).
3. To request the Director to:
 - a) provide technical cooperation to Member States to strengthen capacities that contribute to the implementation of the Strategy for Building Resilient Health Systems;

- b) exercise leadership to promote regional cooperation and dialogue in health and foster cooperation among countries and the sharing of knowledge and experiences;
- c) report periodically to the Governing Bodies of PAHO on the progress made and challenges faced in the implementation of this strategy through a midterm review in 2026 and a final report in 2032.

(Sixth meeting, 23 June 2021)