RESOLUTION

CSP29.R4

PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF VITAL STATISTICS 2017-2022

THE 29th PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE,

Having reviewed the Plan of Action for the Strengthening of Vital Statistics 2017-2022 (Document CSP29/9);

Recognizing the importance of improving the coverage and quality of vital statistics in order to have more reliable and valid information for the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of health policies in the countries, following international recommendations;

Recognizing the need to have valid and timely data with the greatest degree of disaggregation possible at the subnational, national, subregional, and regional levels for the assessment and formulation of health policies and the monitoring of indicators such as those established for the Sustainable Development Goals, the Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018-2030, and the PAHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019;

Aware of the efforts made and the achievements obtained thus far through the previous Plan of Action for Strengthening Vital and Health Statistics (2008-2012), and of the recommendations by the Member States to continue and expand it, emphasizing the subnational levels and statistical analytical capacity;

Considering the importance of a new plan of action that gives continuous and constant guidance to improve the coverage and quality of vital statistics in the countries of the Region of the Americas,
RESOLVES:

1. To approve the Plan of Action for the Strengthening of Vital Statistics 2017-2022 (Document CSP29/9) within the context of the specific conditions of each country.

2. To urge the Member States to:
   a) promote participation and coordination with national and sectoral statistics and civil registry offices, health information and epidemiology departments, priority programs and finance units of ministries of health, PAHO/WHO collaborating centers, and other public and private actors involved in analyzing the situation and preparing or strengthening national plans of action;
   b) consider mobilizing human, technological, and financial resources for the implementation of this new plan of action to strengthen vital statistics;
   c) coordinate with other countries of the Region in the implementation of their own plans of action and in the dissemination and use of tools to help strengthen the production of vital statistics, including information and communications technology;
   d) increase the commitment to and participation in networks created to strengthen health information systems such as the Latin American and Caribbean Network for the Strengthening of Health Information Systems (RELACSIS) and the WHO Family of International Classifications Network in order to make use of the invested resources and take maximum advantage of the contributions made through South-South cooperation.

3. Request the Director to:
   a) work with the Member States to evaluate and update their national plans of action and to disseminate tools that favor the production and strengthening of vital statistics within a renewed approach to health information systems;
   b) strengthen coordination of the plan of action with similar initiatives developed by other international technical and financial agencies and global initiatives to strengthen vital statistics in the countries;
   c) work with the Member States in developing a strategy and plan of action for strengthening health information systems, to be submitted for consideration by the Governing Bodies in 2018;
   d) report periodically to the Governing Bodies on the progress made and challenges faced in implementation of the plan of action.

(Fourth meeting, 26 September 2017)