

Reaffirming its belief in the need to strengthen and improve the evaluation of the Organization's programme on a continuing basis;

Recognizing that, for evaluation to be effective, the Organization must develop specific objectives, quantified where possible, particularly at the country and regional levels;

Recalling that, in its organizational study on the interrelationships between the central technical services of WHO and programmes of direct assistance to Member States,<sup>2</sup> the Board laid emphasis on the need to intensify collaboration with Member States for a systematic assessment of the implementation of the Organization's programme and of its ultimate impact on the health situation of the countries,

1. THANKS the Director-General for his report;
2. CONCURS with the Director-General's proposals for developing programme evaluation at all operational levels of the Organization;
3. RECOMMENDS that all Member States introduce the renewed approach to evaluating health programmes; and
4. REQUESTS the Director-General, when implementing his proposals, to take into account the deliberations of the Board at its fifty-seventh session and to inform the Executive Board and the World Health Assembly of experience gained and progress made in the development of programme evaluation.

Jan. 1976 231, 11

<sup>1</sup> WHO Official Records, No. 231, 1976, p. 225.

<sup>2</sup> WHO Official Records, No. 223, 1975, p. 62.

**EB61.R26** The Executive Board,

Recalling resolution EB57.R17;

Having considered the report of its Programme Committee on the development of health programme evaluation concerning the Director-General's progress report on this matter and the guidelines that appear as an annex to this report;

Noting the progress made in developing these guidelines for the evaluation process;

1. ENDORSES the principles, methods and process of evaluation contained in the guidelines;
2. REQUESTS the Director-General:
  - (1) to introduce progressively the process of health programme evaluation throughout the Organization;
  - (2) to report on the progress of such evaluation to a future session of the Programme Committee of the Executive Board;
3. INVITES the regional committees to continue to study the most appropriate ways of promoting health programme evaluation in the regions;
4. RECOMMENDS to the Thirty-first World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:<sup>1</sup>

The Thirty-first World Health Assembly,

Supporting the Executive Board's endorsement of the principles, methods and process of evaluation as proposed by the Director-General;

1. REQUESTS the Director-General to continue to develop the process of health programme evaluation as an integral part of the health development process;

3. URGES Member States to progressively introduce the above-mentioned process for the evaluation of national health programmes and services by national health personnel, and to collaborate with WHO in evaluating the impact of the Organization's programmes in their countries.

Jan. 1978 244, 18

<sup>1</sup> The Health Assembly adopted, as resolution WHA31.11, the text recommended by the Board, after amending the paragraphs reproduced.

**WHA31.11** The Thirty-first World Health Assembly,

Noting the discussions of the Executive Board at its sixty-first session on the development of health programme evaluation;<sup>1</sup>

Supporting the Executive Board's endorsement in resolution EB61.R26 of the principles, methods and process of evaluation as proposed by the Director-General;

Stressing the important role of the regional committees in promoting health programme evaluation;

1. REQUESTS the Director-General to continue to develop the process of health programme evaluation as an integral part of the health development process, including the establishment of positive indicators of health status;
2. REQUESTS the Executive Board to review periodically the development of health programme evaluation;
3. URGES Member States to introduce progressively and promote the above-mentioned process for the evaluation of national health programmes and services by national health personnel, and to collaborate with WHO in evaluating the impact of the Organization's programmes in their countries.

May 1978 247, 6

<sup>1</sup> See WHO Official Records, No. 246, 1978, p. 202.

**5. Information Systems Support**

For previous resolutions, see Data Processing, Volume I, page 498.

*For resolutions concerning the international information system on drugs, see under Drug and Vaccine Quality, Safety and Efficacy, page 133 of this volume. For other specific systems, see entry in Index for Information systems.*

**WHA27.32** The Twenty-seventh World Health Assembly,

Recognizing the interdisciplinary nature of many of the programmes of the United Nations system and the need for

comparable information on activities of the system in the sectors and subsectors of WHO's field of competence;

Recognizing the importance of developing a sound information support system for the improvement of the Organization's programme and project formulation, implementation and evaluation, as a prerequisite for and contribution to the strengthening of a coordinated interagency information system in the United Nations family;

Recalling the interest of the Economic and Social Council in the development of common concepts for the information systems supporting the management of programmes and projects within the United Nations system, as contained in the decision at its fifty-fifth session;<sup>1</sup>

Recognizing the efforts made by the Director-General to provide Member States with improved information for the decision-making process with respect to WHO's programme activities in 1975;

Anticipating the Director-General's continuing effort to improve the work programme including the presentation of headquarters and regional programmes in a consistent form and structure;

Considering that the continued improvement of WHO's management system is an important step forward in strengthening the Organization's services to Member States,

REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) to continue his intensive efforts to develop, for all levels of the Organization, a fully coordinated information system for improving the formulation, implementation and evaluation of programmes and projects in WHO, and the provision of relevant information to Member States so as to facilitate decision-making in the World Health Assembly and the Executive Board;
- (2) to support and to continue to promote the activities of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the development of common concepts for information systems; and
- (3) to report to the Twenty-eighth World Health Assembly on the steps taken to improve collaboration among United Nations organizations for the development of coordinated interagency information systems.

May 1974 217, 14

<sup>1</sup>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fifth session, Resolutions, Supplement No. 1 (E/5400), p. 32.

#### EB55.R56 The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on coordination with other organizations of the United Nations system,

2. SUPPORTS the continuing efforts of the Director-General in collaborating fully with the other organizations of the United Nations system to develop, within the framework of the Inter-Organization Board for Information Systems and Related Activities, common concepts and approaches for the elaboration of information systems;

Jan. 1975 223, 36

#### WHA30.46 The Thirtieth World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolutions WHA27.32 and EB55.R56;

Recognizing the necessity for rationalization and reallocation of the Organization's resources;

Bearing in mind the emphasis of WHO policy on improved planning of health services and the dependence of such progress on information systems and services;

1. EMPHASIZES the importance of adequate systems and services for the generation, collection and dissemination of statistical and other relevant information on health and socioeconomic matters, as the basis of better planned and effective health services;
2. URGES Member States to develop appropriate national health information systems and services to support the development, implementation and evaluation of their health services;
3. REQUESTS the Director-General:
  - (1) to ensure that the activities of WHO in the fields of statistical and other information systems and services will continue to have the necessary priority at headquarters and in the regions;
  - (2) to collaborate with Member States in the development of national health information systems and services;
  - (3) to report in his annual report on progress in this field to a future Assembly.

May 1977 240, 27

#### EB61.R32 The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of its Programme Committee on the development of the WHO information systems programme and the Director-General's report reviewed therein;

Reaffirming the need for a new WHO information system to support programme management and the international exchange of health information;

Recognizing that development of the programme management information system is proceeding in unison with WHO's activities for the development of medium-term programming, country health programming, programme budgeting, and programme evaluation;

1. ENDORSES the concepts and strategy followed by the Director-General in the development and implementation of the new WHO information system;
2. EXPRESSES satisfaction with the implementation of the new system;
3. NOTES that efforts and available resources have, of necessity, been concentrated so far on the programme management information system, and that steps are being taken to initiate the development of systems to support the international exchange of health information;
4. STRESSES the value to Member States and to the Organization of the involvement of national staff in the development of the WHO information system and the need for the WHO and national health information systems to be developed in close harmony;
5. INVITES the regional committees that have not already done so to promote, in the most appropriate way, the development of national health information systems in the regions and to stress the importance of the interrelationship between the WHO and national health information systems;

6. RECOMMENDS to the Thirty-first World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Thirty-first World Health Assembly,

Noting the discussions in the Executive Board at its sixty-first session with regard to the development of the WHO information systems programme;

Supporting the Executive Board's endorsement of the concepts and strategy for the development of WHO's new information system;

Reaffirming the value to Member States and to WHO of the involvement of national staff in the development of the WHO information system;

Emphasizing the need for the WHO and national health information systems to be developed in close harmony;

Stressing also the need for the regional committees to promote the development of national health information systems and their interrelationship with the WHO information system;

1. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to continue to implement the new system according to the concepts and strategy endorsed by the Executive Board at its sixty-first session;

(2) to promote, on request, the adaptation of the methodology used in the development of the WHO information system for the development of national health information systems to provide integral support for national health programmes;

(3) to seek the involvement of national staff in the further development and implementation of the WHO information system;

(4) to continue to ensure coordination with other information systems within the United Nations system;

2. URGES Member States to collaborate with WHO in adapting and applying the methodology of WHO information systems development to the development of national health information systems to provide integral support for national health programmes;

3. REQUESTS the Executive Board to review periodically the development of the information systems programme.

*Jan. 1978* **244**, 21

**WHA31.20** The Thirty-first World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolutions WHA30.46 and EB61.R32;

Reiterating the importance of reliable information systems for planning, programming, implementing and evaluating health programmes;

Recognizing that such information support from all relevant sources, including health and related statistics, should be developed within Member States in accordance with their needs and resources;

Recognizing also the need for WHO to develop its own system for programme management and the international exchange of health and other related information;

Bearing in mind the constitutional obligation of Member States to provide WHO with relevant information on their health status and development, and WHO's role in the analysis of this information and its timely dissemination;

Considering that the WHO information system and national health information systems should be mutually supportive and wherever possible compatible;

Mindful of the need to ensure the coordination of the WHO information system with other information systems within the United Nations institutions and the specialized agencies;

1. URGES Member States to develop or strengthen their health information systems so as to provide adequate support to their management processes for health development and to contribute to the international exchange of health and related information;

2. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to develop principles for national health information systems in close collaboration with Member States, and to respond to requests from Member States to collaborate with them in establishing or strengthening their health information systems;

(2) to continue to develop and implement the new WHO information system through intensified consultation with national experts in order to improve WHO's programme management and to facilitate the international exchange of information;

(3) to report on progress periodically, as appropriate, to the Executive Board and to the Health Assembly.

*May 1978* **247**, 12

#### REPORTS OF EXPERT COMMITTEES

	Published in <i>Technical Report Series</i> No.	Relevant resolution
Application of systems analysis to health management	<b>596</b>	EB59.R1(1977)

#### 6. Report of the Director-General on the Work of WHO

For previous resolutions, see  
Volume I, page 17.

**EB55.R38** The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the subject of annual reporting by the Director-General,<sup>1</sup>

1. AGREES, in principle, with the main proposals; and

2. RECOMMENDS to the Twenty-eighth World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:<sup>2</sup>

*Jan. 1975* **223**, 24

<sup>1</sup> WHO Official Records, No. 223, 1975, p. 106.

<sup>2</sup> For text recommended by the Board and adopted by the Health Assembly, see resolution WHA28.29.

on this matter submitted by the Director-General, and the guidelines that appear as an annex to this report;

Recognizing that country health programming is a systematic and continuing multisectoral, national process that helps governments to take political decisions concerning health development, in the spirit of national self-reliance in health matters;

Reaffirming the importance of country health programming for identifying priority health programmes;

Realizing also the value of country health programming in providing a basis for the development of WHO's medium-term programme;

1. THANKS the Programme Committee and the Director-General for their reports;

2. NOTES with satisfaction the action taken by the Organization to promote country health programming as a national planning process for health programme development;

3. ENDORSES the principles and procedures of country health programming as contained in the guidelines;

4. CONCURS with the recommendations of the Programme Committee and with the Director-General's proposals for the further promotion of the process of national health programme development;

5. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to develop further the country health programming methodology in the light of experience in its application by Member States;

(2) to cooperate with Member States in the initiation and maintenance of country health programming;

(3) to strengthen activities to train national and WHO personnel in the country health programming process;

(4) to draw the attention of other United Nations and bilateral agencies to the usefulness of country health programming in identifying priority national health programmes;

(5) to report on progress in country health programming from time to time, as appropriate, to the Programme Committee of the Executive Board;

6. RECOMMENDS to the Thirty-first World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Thirty-first World Health Assembly,

Endorsing resolution EB61.R25;

Reiterating the importance of country health programming as a systematic and continuing multisectoral, national process that helps governments to take political decisions concerning health development, in the spirit of national self-reliance in health matters;<sup>1</sup>

1. URGES Member States:

(1) to introduce or strengthen the country health programming process for national health programme development;

(2) to establish adequate mechanisms in ministries of health, or other ministries concerned, for the initiation and maintenance of country health programming as a continuing health development process;<sup>1</sup>

(3) to establish national centres for the development of, and for research and training in, country health programming;<sup>1</sup>

(4) to cooperate with other countries through the exchange of information on country health programming methods, procedures and experience and through exchanges of personnel;

(5) to cooperate with WHO in developing further the country health programming methodology in the light of experience in its application;

2. REQUESTS the Executive Board to review progress in country health programming from time to time, as appropriate;

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to cooperate with Member States in the further development and application of country health programming;<sup>1</sup>

(2) to promote training in the country health programming process, as well as the research required for its development and application, in national centres;<sup>1</sup>

(3) to evaluate the progress of country health programming throughout the world and report thereon to the Executive Board as appropriate.<sup>1</sup>

Jan. 1978 244, 16

<sup>1</sup> Paragraph amended by the Health Assembly in resolution WHA31.12.

#### WHA31.12 The Thirty-first World Health Assembly,

Endorsing resolution EB61.R25;

Reiterating the importance of country health programming as a systematic and continuing multisectoral, national process that helps governments to take political decisions concerning health development, in the spirit of national self-reliance in health matters, and to develop efficient national health systems as called for in resolution WHA23.61;<sup>1</sup>

1. URGES Member States:

(1) to introduce or strengthen the country health programming process for national health programme development;

(2) to establish adequate mechanisms in ministries of health, or other ministries and institutions concerned, for the initiation and maintenance of country health programming as a continuing health development process;

(3) to establish national centres or institutions of other types that countries may consider appropriate for the development of, and for research and training in, country health programming;

(4) to cooperate with other countries through the exchange of information on country health programming methods, procedures and experience and through exchanges of personnel;

(5) to cooperate with WHO in developing further the country health programming methodology in the light of experience in its application;

(6) to introduce country health programming, wherever possible and/or necessary, into undergraduate and post-graduate training for health and related personnel, in order