

FORTY-SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA42.34

Agenda item 19

19 May 1989

## NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE GLOBAL AIDS STRATEGY

The Forty-second World Health Assembly,

Recalling the Technical Discussions held during the Thirty-eighth World Health Assembly on collaboration with nongovernmental organizations in implementing the Global Strategy for Health for All, and the related Health Assembly resolution WHA38.31;

Further recalling Health Assembly resolutions WHA40.26 and WHA41.24, resolution 1987/75 of the Economic and Social Council, United Nations General Assembly resolutions 42/8 and 43/15, and the London Declaration on AIDS prevention;

Acknowledging that in view of their contacts with and access to individuals and communities, their commitment and versatility, and their knowledge and experience, nongovernmental organizations can make a special impact on individuals and society regarding AIDS and the needs of HIV-infected people and those with AIDS;

Appreciating the rapid and appropriate response of many nongovernmental organizations in providing support to individuals and communities affected by the AIDS pandemic;

Recognizing that organizations of HIV-infected persons and those with AIDS can contribute towards understanding the sensitivities and needs of those affected and to the formulation of policies and programmes concerning AIDS;

Acknowledging with appreciation the commitment and results of the WHO Global Programme on AIDS in seeking ways to develop effective working relations with nongovernmental organizations and to strengthen their capacity to respond to AIDS within the framework of the global AIDS strategy;

Recalling the objectives of the global strategy on AIDS namely to prevent HIV infection, to reduce its personal and social impact, and to coordinate national and international efforts against AIDS;

1. AFFIRMS that the roles of governments, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations in the global strategy on AIDS are complementary, allowing them to contribute to the worldwide efforts in a manner commensurate with their respective qualities and potentials;

2. URGES Member States:

(1) to include representatives of nongovernmental organizations, as appropriate, on national AIDS committees and in other bodies engaged in combating AIDS;

(2) to recognize the important contribution nongovernmental organizations can make in the design, implementation and review of national AIDS plans;

(3) to avoid legal provisions which may impede the implementation of the global strategy and national programmes on AIDS and to work in collaboration with nongovernmental organizations to overcome discriminatory attitudes;

(4) to provide support for relevant nongovernmental organizations in the light of their needs and their financial and technical resources, and to seek solutions to structural impediments that constrain their operations;

3. CALLS UPON nongovernmental organizations:

(1) to coordinate their activities with those of other nongovernmental organizations and in liaison with the policy of national AIDS committees, governmental bodies working on AIDS, WHO and other intergovernmental organizations;

(2) to respond appropriately and sensitively to local conditions in order to ensure optimum mobilization and use of resources, devoting special attention to their effective and rational management;

(3) to contribute, as appropriate, to programmes relating to AIDS, especially in primary health care and other forms of community development;

4. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to continue to take into account the potential contribution of nongovernmental organizations to the development of an innovative and progressive community-based response to AIDS in accordance with the principles and objectives of the global strategy on AIDS;

(2) to promote collaboration between WHO and relevant nongovernmental organizations in support of the global strategy and national programmes on AIDS.

Thirteenth plenary meeting, 19 May 1989  
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