



Second Meeting of Health Ministers of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries

15 May 2009

ESTORIL DECLARATION

The Health Ministers of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) - Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Timor-Leste – met at Estoril, on 15 May 2009;

Remembering their interest in establishing as a priority “... the reduction of infant mortality; the improvement of access to reproductive health and the reduction of maternal mortality; the combat of HIV/Aids, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases”, as stated in the “Declaration on the Millennium Development Goals: Challenges and Contributions of the CPLP” (6th Conference of Heads of State and Government of the CPLP, Bissau, July 2006);

Reaffirming the “Praia Declaration”, approved in April 2008 on the occasion of the 1st Meeting of the Health Ministers of the CPLP and the Final Communiqué of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Health Ministers of the CPLP, held in Rio de Janeiro on September 2008;

Reiterating the importance of the “Lisbon Declaration”, adopted on 25 July 2008 by the Heads of State and Government of the CPLP, on the occasion of the 7th Conference, reaffirming the importance of promoting gender equality in the CPLP and orienting the integration of this matter in all its policies, strategies, projects and cooperation programs to be carried out by the Community;

Considering the truly strategic role of public health policies and the necessity to act on social health determinants for the successful pursuit of the Millennium Development



Goals;

Recognizing the necessity to ensure the universal access to health services, with particular emphasis on the comprehensive primary health care;

Recognizing the complexity of the state of the Socio-epidemiologist framework in our countries;

Conscientious that there can be no health without development, nor development without health; and recognizing the gravity of the structural and systemic economic crisis which should not justify any reduction in the external aid of the international donors; but instead, ought to justify investments in the health sector to stimulate the economy, generate jobs and promote a healthier and productive society;

Recognizing that the right to health is a basic right and acknowledging that it is an obligation of the States and Governments to ensure this right to all its citizens, independent of the economic, geographic, social, racial and sexual base conditions;

Reiterating the importance of development cooperation and the political-diplomatic conciliation, aimed at the reinforcement of CPLP's position in the framework of regional and multilateral organizations within its Member States, namely through the promotion of initiatives in favour of the North-South and South-South cooperation;

Underlining the innovative character of the Strategic Plan in Health Cooperation of the CPLP (PECS/CPLP) as an integrating instrument of synergies in the scope of the Health of the Portuguese Speaking Countries;

Assured that the use of a common language is a unifying element for the implementation of cooperation projects and programs of a multilateral character that aim at sharing the interchange of knowledge, experiences good practices;



Conscious that the harmonization and complementarities between the National Health Plans of the Member States and the Strategic Plan in Health Cooperation of the CPLP (PECS/CPLP) are vital for the success, implementation and sustainability of the strategy;

Determined to stimulate and fortify the cooperation ties at the core of the CPLP, with the objective of promoting the qualification of human resources and implementing structuring projects to strengthen the institutional capacity and perfect the national health systems;

Remembering the necessity to identify and create conditions, primarily human, technical and financial, to enable the effective accomplishment and support of the multilateral cooperation at the health level established in the CPLP;

Taking into consideration the work carried out by the Technical Group of Focal Points responsible for the Elaboration of the Strategic Plan in Health Cooperation of the CPLP (PECS/CPLP), particularly the commitment demonstrated by the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Brazil) and by the Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (Portugal) while Technical Advisors.

DECLARE:

1. The approval of the Strategic Plan in Health Cooperation of the CPLP, as decided on the “Resolution on the Approval of the PECS/CPLP 2009-2012”.
2. The approval of the “Resolution on the Constitution of the CPLP Technical Health Group”, responsible to guarantee the effective operation, monitoring, evaluation and support of the PECS/CPLP 2009-2012, acting at all times in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the respective Normative Profile,



namely regarding the necessity of coordination with the Focal Points of Cooperation of the CPLP.

3. To commission the Technical Health Group of the CPLP to, with the most brevity, initiate the process of the implementing the projects of the PECS/CPLP, considering the strategic Axis 1 – Training and Development Human resources and Strategic Axis 2 - Information and Communication in Health as priority (priority1).
4. The approval of the “Resolution on the Creation of the Sectorial Health Fund of the CPLP”, which (i) institutes a mechanism of financial support to implement the approved projects of cooperation in the framework of the PECS/CPLP and (ii) approves the Regulation of the cited Fund.
5. To commission the Executive Secretariat of the CPLP to, in conjunction with the Presidency of the CPLP, organize a Round Table with Development Partners, until September 2009, with the objective of mobilizing support for the accomplishment of the PECS/CPLP.
6. The interest and relevance of signing the Cooperation Agreement between CPLP and the WHO (World Health Organisation), to support the implementation of the PECS/CPLP, encouraging cooperation with that organization given its recognized and unquestioned leading role in the framework of global health issues.
7. The importance to intensify efforts to reinforce relationships between the CPLP, the international community and the development partners acting in the health area, widening the presence of the CPLP in the international map, which will contribute, as a last resort, for the development of the national public health systems for all Member States of the CPLP through the SPHC.
8. The necessity to continue giving support to prevent and combat great endemic



diseases within the CPLP territories, such as HIV/Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria, taking into consideration the gender aspect; the neglected illnesses and the emergent illnesses such as the influenza A(H1N1).

9. The importance to involve, collaborate and combine abilities with the civil society of the Member States to develop projects in the domain of Health and Development.
10. The commitment of the Health Ministers of the CPLP to express themselves and use Portuguese in the various international forums as to promote and spread the Portuguese Language in accordance with the international level and the orientations of 7th Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the CPLP.

Done and signed at Estoril, on 15 May 2009

By the Republic of Angola

By the Federal Republic of Brazil

By the Republic of Cape Verde

By the Republic of the Guinea-Bissau

By the Republic of Mozambique

By the Portuguese Republic

By the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe

By the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste