



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE
Advancing Hospice & Palliative Care Worldwide

IAHPC Statement to PAHO governing council in English

Directing Council Pan American Health Organization
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Organization: International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care

Name: Patricia Bonilla

Relevant agenda item: 4.2 COVID-19 Pandemic in the Region of the Americas

Intervention

The International Hospice and Palliative Care Association thanks the Council for the floor.

My name is Patricia Bonilla and I am a professor of palliative care in the department of medicine at the Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja in Ecuador. I also work with patients who require palliative care. Palliative care is the active, holistic care of people of all ages with serious health-related suffering due to severe illness, and especially those near the end of life. Its objective is to improve the quality of life of patients, their families and their caregivers.

We welcome the Draft Resolution, specifically the budget that refers to the inclusion of palliative care in Outcome 5. We also welcome the adoption of the May 2020 World Health Assembly resolution 73/1 and the commitment to include palliative care.

Our members in the region are available to collaborate with governments of Member States to implement the WHO Guidance and the World Health Assembly Resolution.

We also welcome the Joint Declaration issued by INCB, WHO and the United Nations Office for Drug Control, which reminded governments that "it is an ethical imperative to ensure that all people in all countries of the world have access to essential medicines, including internationally controlled medicines."

As a non-state actor in official relations with the WHO, the IAHPC collaborated with the WHO in the publication "Guidance for the Clinical Management of COVID19." We urge you to implement the guidelines and invite our members to collaborate with their teams to develop containment and management strategies for COVID that integrate palliative care.

Thank you very much.