

# RESOLUTION 23R-24

To request the Trustees to consider amending the Rotary Foundation Code of Policies section 32.010., Commitment to Global Polio Eradication

**Proposer(s):** Rotary Club of Osaka-Nakanoshima, District 2660, Japan

1 WHEREAS, section 32.010. of the Rotary Foundation Code of Policies,  
2 Commitment to Global Polio Eradication, provides the following guidance from the  
3 Trustees regarding Rotary’s polio eradication strategy: “it is premature, and to the  
4 detriment of polio eradication, to adopt any future global goal before certification,”  
5 and  
6

7 WHEREAS, in their statement above, the Trustees are clear that the global  
8 eradication of polio remains the principal goal of our organization. Nevertheless,  
9 there are unique challenges to this effort in Afghanistan and Pakistan, attributable  
10 chiefly to political insecurity or vaccine refusal and misinformation, and further  
11 progress in those areas will require a good deal more time and effort on the part of  
12 Rotary, and  
13

14 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic was an unexpected event, but should not be  
15 viewed as an isolated incident. We believe Rotary is cognizant of this fact and  
16 should adopt a flexible approach to managing such contingencies. While the use of  
17 the words ‘premature,’ ‘detriment,’ and ‘adopt any’ in this section is an effective way  
18 to emphasize Rotary’s resolve, it could become an obstacle to a flexible approach in  
19 the future  
20

21 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary  
22 International consider requesting the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to  
23 consider amending Rotary Foundation Code of Policies section 32.010.,  
24 Commitment to Global Polio Eradication, as follows:  
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## 26 **Article 32. PolioPlus**

### 27 **32.010. Commitment to Global Polio Eradication**

28 As endorsed by Councils on Legislation, the global eradication of polio is, and  
29 must remain, the premier goal of Rotary International and its Foundation until  
30 the world is certified as polio-free.  
31

32  
33 The Trustees believe that it is ~~is premature, and to the detriment of~~ would be hasty,  
34 and potentially disadvantageous to polio eradication, ~~to adopt any~~ to prioritize  
35 any other future global goal ~~before~~ prior to certification. The potential distraction  
36 of Rotarians, the undercutting of advocacy efforts, and the diminishment of  
37 Rotary’s eradication efforts could be the consequence of any such adoption.

(End of Text)

## **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

- 1 Through the language changes suggested to Rotary Foundation Code of Policies
- 2 section 32.010. above, it is hoped that Rotary can adopt a more flexible approach
- 3 to the management of unforeseen crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

- 4 If implemented, this resolution would have no substantial financial impact on RI.