

## **Implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children**

The Executive Board,

Having considered the reports on monitoring the achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals; and on the follow-up of the recommendations of the Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health and on the work done to follow up the recommendations and implementation plan of the United Nations Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children,<sup>1</sup>

RECOMMENDS to the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolutions WHA63.15 on monitoring the achievements of the health-related Millennium Development Goals and WHA65.7 on implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health;

Recalling also that the United Nations Secretary-General called upon the global community through the *Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health* to work together to save 16 million lives by 2015;

Acknowledging the pledges and commitments made by a large number of Member States and partners to the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health;

Recognizing that millions of women and children die needlessly every year from conditions easily prevented with existing, inexpensive medical commodities;

Recognizing also the need urgently to address and overcome the barriers that prevent women and children from accessing and using appropriate commodities;

Welcoming the report of the United Nations Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children, which estimates that 6 million lives can be saved within five years by improving access to 13 specific, overlooked commodities and related products;

Welcoming also the actions recommended by the Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children and the implementation plan to deliver the actions;

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<sup>1</sup> Documents EB132/11 and EB132/13.

Acknowledging that the Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children's recommended actions will also increase access to a broader set of commodities;

Acknowledging also the need to promote, establish or support and strengthen the health services needed by women and children from before pregnancy to delivery, during the immediate post-delivery period, and childhood;

Reaffirming the importance of facilitation of technology transfer on mutually agreed terms between developed and developing countries as well as among developing countries as appropriate;

Acknowledging the role of the independent Expert Review Group in reviewing the progress made in implementing the recommended actions;

1. URGES Member States to put into practice, as appropriate, the implementation plan on life-saving commodities for women and children, including:

(1) improving the quality, supply and use of the 13 life-saving commodities and building upon information and communication technology best practices for making these improvements;

(2) developing plans to implement at scale appropriate interventions to increase demand for and utilization of health services and the 13 life-saving commodities, particularly among underserved populations;

(3) addressing financial barriers to ensure the poorest members of society have access to the 13 life-saving commodities and any other appropriately related commodities;

(4) improving regulatory efficiency by harmonizing registration requirements and streamlining assessment processes, including granting priority review to the life-saving commodities;

(5) implementing proven mechanisms and interventions to ensure that health-care providers are knowledgeable about the latest national guidelines for maternal and child health;

2. REQUESTS the Director General:

(1) to work with UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank, UNAIDS, UN Women, national, regional and international regulators, private sector actors and other partners to promote and assure the availability of safe, quality commodities;

(2) to work with and support Member States, as appropriate, in improving regulatory efficiency, standardizing and harmonizing registration requirements and streamlining assessment processes including granting priority review to the products belonging to the life-saving commodities;

(3) to provide support to the independent Expert Review Group in its work of assessing progress in the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health and implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children;

(4) To report annually until 2015 to the World Health Assembly, through the Executive Board, on progress achieved in the follow-up of the recommendations of the Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children in connection with the agenda item concerning promoting health through the life course.

**Annex to resolution on follow up to recommendations of the  
Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children**

<b>COMMODITY BY LIFE STAGE<sup>1</sup></b>	
<b>Maternal health commodities</b>	
1	<b>Oxytocin</b> – post partum haemorrhage (PPH)
2	<b>Misoprostol</b> – post-partum haemorrhage
3	<b>Magnesium sulfate</b> – eclampsia and severe pre-eclampsia
<b>Newborn health commodities</b>	
4	<b>Injectable antibiotics</b> – newborn sepsis
5	<b>Antenatal corticosteroids (ANCs)</b> – preterm respiratory distress syndrome
6	<b>Chlorhexidine</b> – newborn cord care
7	<b>Resuscitation devices</b> – newborn asphyxia
<b>Child health commodities</b>	
8	<b>Amoxicillin</b> – pneumonia
9	<b>Oral rehydration salts (ORS)</b> – diarrhoea
10	<b>Zinc</b> – diarrhoea
<b>Reproductive health commodities</b>	
11	<b>Female condoms</b>
12	<b>Contraceptive implants</b> – family planning/contraception
13	<b>Emergency contraception</b> – family planning/contraception

Sixth meeting, 23 January 2013

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<sup>1</sup> See United Nations Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children, Commissioner's Report, New York, September 2012, Table 1.