

Sixth report of Committee A

(Draft)

Committee A held its twelfth and thirteenth meetings on 30 May 2017 under the chairmanship of Dr Hanan Mohamed Al-Kuwari (Qatar), Mr Philip Davies (Fiji) and Mr Anandrao Hurree (Mauritius).

It was decided to recommend to the Seventieth World Health Assembly the adoption of the attached decisions and resolution relating to the following agenda items:

16. Promoting health through the life course
 - 16.1 Progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
One decision as amended
 - 16.2 The role of the health sector in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management towards the 2020 goal and beyond
One decision
14. Communicable diseases
 - 14.2 Global vector control response
One resolution entitled:
 - Global vector control response – an integrated approach for the control of vector-borne diseases

Agenda item 16.1

Progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Seventieth World Health Assembly, having considered the report on progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,¹ decided to request the Director-General to continue to report every two years, as requested in resolution WHA69.11 (2016), on health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including on the strengthening of emergency and essential surgical care and anaesthesia as a component of universal health coverage.

¹ Document A70/35.

Agenda item 16.2

The role of the health sector in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management towards the 2020 goal and beyond

The Seventieth World Health Assembly, having considered the report on the role of the health sector in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management towards the 2020 goal and beyond,¹ decided:

- (1) to approve the road map to enhance health sector engagement in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management towards the 2020 goal and beyond;
- (2) to request the Director-General to report to the Seventy-second World Health Assembly on the progress in the implementation of the road map, and at the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly to report further on the progress as well as on actions undertaken by the Secretariat to update the road map in the light of the outcome of the intersessional process to prepare recommendations regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.²

¹ Document A70/36.

² See resolution WHA69.4 (2016), paragraph 2(10).

Agenda item 14.2

Global vector control response – an integrated approach for the control of vector-borne diseases

The Seventieth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on global vector control response;¹

Appreciating the work of the Secretariat in developing through broad consultation with Member States and members of the global health community a comprehensive global vector control response 2017–2030,² which served as the basis for the report;¹

Acutely aware of the burden and threat of vector-borne diseases to individuals, families and societies throughout the world, and the influence of social, demographic and environmental factors, including climate change and other climate- and weather-related factors, and increasing vector resistance to insecticides and the spread of mosquitoes and other vectors to unaffected areas;

Recognizing the need for cooperation to prevent, detect, report on and respond to outbreaks of vector-borne diseases so as to avoid a public health emergency of international concern under the International Health Regulations (2005);

Noting the recent gains that have been made against malaria, onchocerciasis, lymphatic filariasis, Chagas disease, and others, as well as previous failures and existing challenges, and that lessons learned could be used for other vector-borne diseases;

Recognizing the need for an integrated, comprehensive approach to vector control that will enable the setting and achievement of disease-specific national and global goals, and will contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, to addressing the social determinants of health, and to tackling health inequities;

Deeply concerned by the current limited capacity and capability for vector control globally, and in particular the acute shortage in public health and development programmes of personnel with skills in public health entomology,

1. WELCOMES the strategic approach for integrated global vector control and response, as articulated in the report and its Annex;

¹ Document A70/26 Rev.1.

² The full draft document can be accessed at <http://www.who.int/malaria/global-vector-control-response> (accessed 15 May 2017).

2. URGES Member States:¹

(1) to develop or adapt, as appropriate, existing national vector control strategies and operational plans to align them to the strategic approach for integrated global vector control and response, as summarized in the report;² and consistent with the International Health Regulations (2005);

(2) to build and sustain, as appropriate, adequate human-resource (especially public health entomology), infrastructural and institutional capacity and capability at all levels of government and across all relevant sectors, based on a vector control needs assessment;

(3) to promote basic research on vectors and their transmission of pathogens, and applied research on vector control tools, including biological tools, technologies and approaches to evaluate their impact on disease, socioeconomic development, human populations and the environment; and to assess how to integrate them with vaccines, medicines and other interventions;

(4) to promote collaboration in line with the “One Health” approach and the integrated vector and communicable disease approach, as appropriate, across all levels and sectors of government, including municipality and local administrative structures, and with the engagement and mobilization of communities through organized stakeholder groups;

(5) to strengthen national and subnational capacity, as appropriate, for vector surveillance, forecasting and intervention monitoring, including for vector pesticide resistance, and the impact of pesticides on environmental and human health, and to integrate them with public health surveillance systems;

(6) to strengthen and engage in cross-border and regional collaboration by means that include networks in line with the International Health Regulations (2005) in order to build adequate capacity for prevention, surveillance, control and response for vector-borne diseases;

(7) to collaborate, as appropriate, with international, regional, national and local institutions and non-State actors from relevant sectors to support and contribute to the implementation of WHO’s strategic approach for integrated global vector control and response;

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to continue to develop and disseminate normative guidance, policy advice and implementation guidance that provides support to Member States¹ to reduce the burden and threat of vector-borne diseases, including to strengthen human-resource capacity and capability for effective locally adapted sustainable and ethically sensitive vector control;

¹ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

² Document A70/26 Rev.1.

- (2) to continue to promote research on vector-borne disease systems and development of innovative products, methods, tools, technologies and approaches, and to support the generation of evidence-based knowledge on their safety, efficacy and impact on disease, socioeconomic development, human populations and the natural environment;
- (3) to review and provide technical guidance on the ethical aspects and issues associated with the implementation of new vector control approaches in order to develop mitigating strategies and solutions;
- (4) to undertake a review the ethical aspects and related issues associated with vector control implementation that will include social determinants of health, in order to develop mitigating strategies and solutions to tackle health inequities;
- (5) to disseminate widely and update as appropriate technical guidance on integrated vector control for all relevant vector-borne diseases, especially as new evidence-based knowledge becomes available for improved and novel products, tools, technologies and approaches;
- (6) to strengthen the capacities and capabilities of the Secretariat at the global, regional and country levels and ensure that all relevant parts of the Organization across all three levels are actively engaged to lead a coordinated global effort that includes collaboration with other bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental agencies for better implementation of vector control;
- (7) to develop, in consultation with Member States and through regional committees, as appropriate, regional action plans aligned with WHO technical guidance on vector control including the priority activities as described in the report;¹
- (8) to provide support to countries to develop and/or update national vector control and vector-borne disease control strategies aligned to the strategic approach for integrated global vector control and response and, as appropriate, to other ongoing communicable disease control strategies and emergency response to outbreaks;
- (9) to monitor the implementation of the strategic approach for integrated global vector control and response, and report back on its impact and the progress made towards the milestones and targets at the Seventy-fifth, Eightieth and Eighty-fifth World Health Assemblies.

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¹ Document A70/26 Rev.1.