

EM/RC41/R.16 **POLIOMYELITIS ERADICATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION**

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Regional Director's progress report on Poliomyelitis Eradication in the Eastern Mediterranean Region;¹²

Appreciating the progress being made towards the goal of poliomyelitis eradication in the Region;

Recalling resolutions EM/RC35/R.14, EM/RC36/R.6 and EM/RC40/R.8;

Recognizing that the achievement of the regional target for poliomyelitis eradication by the year 2000 urgently requires full implementation of WHO-recommended strategies in all Member States, and that this will require additional financial and human resources;

1. **THANKS** the Regional Director for his report;
2. **ENDORSES** the updated Plan of Action for Poliomyelitis Eradication in the Eastern Mediterranean Region for the Years 1994-1998;
3. **URGES** Member States:
 - 3.1 to ensure that strong national commitment to poliomyelitis eradication is adopted at all levels and to guarantee the availability of the necessary financial and human resources;
 - 3.2 to ensure mandatory reporting of all cases of acute flaccid paralysis in children aged less than 15 years, with expert clinical, epidemiological and virological investigations and 60-day follow-up;
 - 3.3 to conduct national immunization days with oral polio vaccine, particularly in countries with evidence or risk of wild poliovirus transmission;
 - 3.4 to coordinate the timing of national immunization days between countries in the emerging polio-free zones and the adjacent countries;
 - 3.5 to establish national commissions to ensure the effective functioning of the national polio eradication programme in preparation for certification of poliomyelitis eradication;
 - 3.6 to avail themselves of the opportunity of World Health Day in 1995, with its theme "Target 2000 - A World without Polio" to increase public awareness and establish appropriate policies in this regard;
4. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director:
 - 4.1 to coordinate interregional polio eradication activities with other regions;
 - 4.2 to establish a Regional Commission for Polio Eradication to coordinate between national commissions;
 - 4.3 to continue to seek the additional resources required to achieve polio eradication in the Region by the year 2000.

¹² Document EM/RC41/13.