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Agenda item 11

20 January 1997

WHO reform

Linking the renewed health-for-all strategy with the Tenth General Programme of Work, programme budgeting and evaluation

The Executive Board,

Having considered the summary of an interregional meeting on health for all for the twenty-first century,¹ the report of the Director-General on preparation of the Tenth General Programme of Work,² and the report of the Programme Development Committee;³

Thanking the Director-General and acknowledging the efforts of the steering committee on health-for-all renewal;

Thanking also the participants in the consultation process,

RECOMMENDS to the Fiftieth World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Fiftieth World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolution WHA48.16, which requests the Director-General to take the necessary steps for renewing the health-for-all strategy together with its indicators, by developing a new holistic global health policy based on the concepts of equity and solidarity, emphasizing the individual's, the family's and the community's responsibility for health, and placing health within the overall development framework;

Recognizing that the new global health policy should be based on an intensive consultation process with Member States, and on a practical and socially feasible approach with a view to achieving equity, solidarity, effectiveness and efficiency, with attention to the rational use of resources;

¹ Document EB99/13.

² Document EB99/18.

³ Document EB99/3.

Recognizing that the attainment of health is greatly influenced by environmental, social, economic and demographic factors which often lie outside the domain of the health sector and that whereas the link between poverty and ill-health is well established, the fact that rapid urbanization, population movements and environmental degradation are all also likely to contribute to the future burden of disease is less well recognized;

Aware that more realistic targets are required that take into account the social and economic situation of each region;

Anticipating that the renewed health-for-all strategy will concentrate on improving life expectancy and the overall perceived quality of life, reducing morbidity and disability associated with ageing;

Thanking the Director-General for the progress made towards the implementation of this resolution,

- 1. PROPOSES that the renewed health-for-all strategy, taking into account regional differences and respecting cultural values should:
 - (1) be very carefully linked with health programme priorities nationally, regionally and globally, the Tenth General Programme of Work, the budget and the process for its development, the development of work plans and activities, and evaluation;
 - (2) become the guiding framework for the development of the Tenth General Programme of Work;

2. URGES all Member States:

- (1) to ensure that future health policies include a commitment to equity, gender sensitivity and sustainability for future generations, and that implementation of such policies takes into account scientific progress and cultural values and is guided by reliable data and valid assessments to ensure the achievement of objectives;
- (2) to make the necessary changes in health services with special emphasis on prevention, including the control of communicable diseases;
- (3) to develop and implement integrated strategies for health, focusing on intersectoral initiatives, cost-effectiveness, accessibility and sustainability of health systems; the use of existing, appropriate and affordable new technology; the use of initiatives based on scientific knowledge or practical evidence:

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) to use the renewed health-for-all strategy to enhance WHO's leadership in global health matters;
- (2) to ensure that the global policy is implemented through action plans that will have strong international, regional and national components with revised targets and indicators, incorporating overall monitoring and evaluation;
- (3) to continue the preparation of the Tenth General Programme of Work closely linked with the preparation of the new policy for health for all for the twenty-first century, providing targets, revised as appropriate, that have been defined within the terms of the new policy, and showing consistency of vision and content;

- (4) to ensure that the products, services and functions of the Organization meet well-defined criteria which will be specified in the Tenth General Programme of Work and reflected in programme budget development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- (5) to optimize the management and use of WHO's human resources to enhance efficiency.

Thirteenth meeting, 20 January 1997 EB99/SR/13