



Ninety-ninth Session

EB99.R19

Agenda item 14

21 January 1997

## Control of tropical diseases

### Eradication of dracunculiasis

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the control of tropical diseases, being especially impressed at the progress made towards the eradication of dracunculiasis and wanting to ensure that the momentum is maintained until the last case of dracunculiasis has been contained,<sup>1</sup>

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

The Fiftieth World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolutions WHA39.21, WHA42.29, and WHA44.5;

Encouraged by the finding of an international certification team that one country is no longer endemic for dracunculiasis, and indications that a number of other previously endemic countries are no longer affected;

Encouraged by the good progress made through community participation towards global dracunculiasis eradication, including the significant reductions in the number of cases and high levels of case-containment being reported;

Commending the Director-General on the important step taken to establish the International Commission for the Certification of Dracunculiasis Eradication;

Appreciative of the commitment to dracunculiasis eradication shown by endemic countries, and of the help from all those who have been supporting national programmes with integrated surveillance and with the case-containment phase of dracunculiasis eradication;

Concerned about the risk of dracunculiasis resurgence unless interventions are maintained with at least the current intensity in all remaining endemic countries until the last case is eliminated;

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<sup>1</sup> Document EB99/20.

Concerned that more than 70% of the world's dracunculiasis cases remain in a single country, which is currently experiencing particular difficulties and where insufficient funds for programme activities are available,

URGES all Member States, international and nongovernmental organizations, and appropriate corporations to continue to ensure political support to, and the availability of much-needed resources for completion of eradication of dracunculiasis as quickly as technically feasible and for the International Commission for the Certification of Dracunculiasis Eradication and its work.

Fourteenth meeting, 21 January 1997  
EB99/SR/14

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