

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Provisional Agenda item 10

*Sixty-ninth Session
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Progress reports on selected Regional Committee resolutions

The High-Level Preparatory Meeting held in the WHO Regional Office in New Delhi from 11–14 July 2016 reviewed the progress reports on the following selected Regional Committee resolutions:

1. Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development (CEWG): Financing and Coordination (**SEA/RC65/R3**)
2. Challenges in polio eradication (**SEA/RC60/R8**)
3. South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) (**SEA/RC60/R7**)
4. Capacity building of Member States in global health (**SEA/RC63/R6**)
5. 2012: Year of Intensification of routine Immunization in the South-East Asia Region: Framework for Increasing and Sustaining Coverage (**SEA/RC64/R3**)
6. Regional Action Plan and Targets for Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (2013–2020) (**SEA/RC66/R6**)

The recommendations made by the High-Level Preparatory Meeting on each of the above-mentioned progress reports are submitted to the Sixty-ninth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for its consideration.

Introduction

1. The High-Level Preparatory Meeting held in the WHO Regional Office in New Delhi from 11–14 July 2016 reviewed the progress reports on the following selected Regional Committee resolutions:

1. Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development (CEWG): Financing and Coordination (**SEA/RC65/R3**)
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3. South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) (**SEA/RC60/R7**)
4. Capacity building of Member States in global health (**SEA/RC63/R6**)
5. 2012: Year of Intensification of routine Immunization in the South-East Asia Region: Framework for Increasing and Sustaining Coverage (**SEA/RC64/R3**)
6. Regional Action Plan and Targets for Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (2013–2020) (**SEA/RC66/R6**)

2. The recommendations made by the High-Level Preparatory Meeting on each of the above-mentioned progress reports are submitted to the Sixty-ninth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for its consideration.

1. Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development (CEWG): Financing and Coordination (SEA/RC65/R3)

Recommendations

Actions by Member States

- (1) Make concerted efforts to fully implement the strategic workplan agreed upon in World Health Assembly resolution WHA66.22 and subsequent World Health Assembly resolutions.
- (2) Create, operationalize and strengthen, as appropriate, national health research and development observatories or equivalent functions for tracking and monitoring of relevant information on health research and development
- (3) Promote voluntary pooled funds to support research and development for Type-III and Type-II diseases and specific research and development needs of developing countries in relation to Type-I diseases.

Actions by WHO

- (1) Support Member States in the implementation of the strategic workplan agreed in resolution WHA66.22 for implementation of the CEWG
- (2) Support Member States and organize regional consultations to take forward WHA61.21 on Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property, the parent resolution of the CEWG.

2. Challenges in polio eradication (SEA/RC60/R8)

Recommendations

Actions by Member States

- (1) Continue efforts to maintain certification standard surveillance and outbreak response preparedness to ensure timely detection of and urgent response to any wild or vaccine-derived poliovirus.
- (2) Ensure completion of containment of polioviruses as per the Global Action Plan III to mitigate the risk of exposure of communities to any type-2 polioviruses.
- (3) Finalize country-specific plans for the transition of the polio programme's human resources and other assets that are funded by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, especially in Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

Actions by WHO

- (1) Support the implementation of activities for containment of polioviruses in coordination with various stakeholders as per timelines stipulated under the Global Action Plan III.
- (2) Support development of roadmaps for transition of polio functions, resources and lessons learned in the Member States of the SEA Region through coordination and collaboration between governments, development partners, donors and other stakeholders.
- (3) Support Member States with risk mitigation efforts arising out of shortage of IPV supplies, including coordinating with the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and manufacturers; support the access to the global stockpile of mOPV2 and IPV; and provide technical support for fractional-dose IPV introduction, if the Member State decides to use this option.

3. South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) (SEA/RC60/R7)

Recommendations

Actions by Member States

- (1) Continue to strongly support SEARHEF and contribute resources to the Fund.
- (2) Support the proposed expansion of the scope of SEARHEF to incorporate preparedness activities.

Actions by WHO

- (1) Convene the next SEARHEF Working Group meeting together with technical experts before the Regional Committee session and develop guidelines for the proposed preparedness funding stream.

- (2) Propose, on the basis of these guidelines, a resolution titled “Expanding the Scope of the South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF)” for consideration by the Sixty-ninth Session of the Regional Committee.

4. Capacity building of Member States in global health (SEA/RC63/R6)

Recommendations

Actions by Member States

- (1) Engage actively in capacity-building in global health.
- (2) Encourage and support greater participation at the Governing Body meetings.

Actions by WHO

- (1) Continue supporting Member States in organizing national, regional and global seminars and training workshops on global health, including the health-related SDGs.
- (2) Explore various mechanisms to support capacity-building in global health for Member States, e.g. through participation in Governing Body and other global health forums.

5. 2012: Year of Intensification of routine Immunization in the South-East Asia Region: Framework for Increasing and Sustaining Coverage (SEA/RC64/R3)

Recommendations

Actions by Member States

- (1) Continue to monitor and review immunization coverage to identify gaps and areas for further strengthening in the national immunization programmes.
- (2) Enhance the quality of surveillance and surveillance data for vaccine-preventable diseases to generate evidence for policy decision-making and to measure the impact of improvements in routine immunization coverage.
- (3) Sustain political commitment in this area and provide the financial and human resources needed to strengthen routine immunization programmes.

Actions by WHO

- (1) Support Member States in identifying gaps in routine immunization coverage, enhancing surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases, and targeting actions in administrative areas with low coverage.

- (2) Support Member States in their efforts to improve vaccine-delivery systems and enhance their efficiency in order to reduce delivery costs and improve the coverage of programmes.
- (3) Support capacity-building for health personnel to enhance routine immunization coverage, strengthen vaccine-preventable disease surveillance and improve the technical capacities of national advisory bodies.
- (4) Explore the possibility of innovative vaccine procurement mechanisms and new strategies for affordable vaccines – such as collective bargaining and pooled procurement of vaccines – for Member States, and report on this to the Sixty-ninth Session of the Regional Committee.

6. Regional Action Plan and Targets for Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (2013–2020) (SEA/RC66/R6)

Recommendations

Actions by Member States

- (1) Strengthen multisectoral collaborations with enhanced engagement by non-health sectors that can be crucial at the country level.
- (2) Build an economic case for NCDs so that multisectoral NCD plans can be operationalized.
- (3) Prioritize and implement "Best Buys" to address specific NCD risk factors.
- (4) Strengthen health systems for good quality response and services on NCD prevention and control.
- (5) Expand NCD services at the primary health-care level to improve access.

Actions by WHO

- (1) Advocate for multisectoral approaches to address NCDs and major risk factors in the Region and support regional mechanisms to strengthen and empower national and subnational "champions" on NCD prevention and control.
- (2) Maximize the impact of international NCD prevention and control tools on a comprehensive "total risk" basis, including SDGs, NCD Political Declaration and its subsequent agreements – including time-bound political commitments and other WHA and RC resolutions and declarations related to tobacco, alcohol and unhealthy diet.
- (3) Support Member States in health systems strengthening, capacity-building and developing options for innovative financing mechanisms for NCD prevention and control.