

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the annual report on AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases;<sup>1</sup>

Noting the upward trend of HIV infection and AIDS in many Member States of the Region and the potential impact on the health systems;

Noting also the high incidence of sexually transmitted diseases in most Member States of the Region and the increasing scientific evidence that prevention and care of sexually transmitted diseases can reduce HIV incidence;

<sup>3</sup> Document WPR/RC47/6.

Noting further the commencement of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS in January 1996 and the resulting reduction of resources at the country and regional level;

1. URGES Member States:

- (1) to give stronger political commitment to the support of sexually transmitted diseases prevention and care programmes including efforts to mobilize resources to support these programmes;
- (2) to strengthen the epidemiological surveillance of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV and AIDS;
- (3) to implement HIV prevention programmes particularly targeting commercial sex workers and injecting drug users; and
- (4) to seek an increase in the provision of UNAIDS resources at country and regional level;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (1) to continue technical collaboration with Member States and UNAIDS in the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV infection and AIDS;
- (2) to further strengthen the regional surveillance system on sexually transmitted diseases, HIV infection and AIDS;
- (3) to continue to report annually to the Regional Committee on the situation of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV infection and AIDS.