

Strengthening Control of Mycetoma Disease

Draft resolution proposed by Egypt, Jordan and Sudan

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report on Mycetoma,¹

RECOMMENDS to the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly,

(PP1) Deeply concerned about the burden of Mycetoma, especially among children and young adults in the productive age, and its health and socioeconomic impacts on poor rural communities;

(PP2) Aware that early detection and treatment minimize the adverse consequences of the disease;

(PP3) Noting with satisfaction the progress made by the Mycetoma Collaborating Centre, in coordinating control and research activities among partners;

(PP4) Concerned that several factors, including late detection of cases and lack of effective tools for diagnosis, treatment and prevention, impede further progress;

(PP5) Mindful that achievement of two of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, namely, to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger and to achieve universal primary education, may be hampered by the negative impact of neglected diseases of the poor, including Mycetoma;

(OP1) URGES Member States in which Mycetoma is or threatens to become endemic:

- (a) to assess the burden of Mycetoma and, where necessary, establish a control programme;
- (b) to accelerate effort for early detection and treatment of mycetoma cases;

¹ Document EB137/11.

- (c) where feasible, to build up effective collaboration with other relevant disease-control activities;
- (d) within the context of health-system development, to establish and sustain partnerships at country and regional level for control of Mycetoma;
- (e) to ensure that sufficient national resources are available to meet surveillance and control needs, including access to treatment and rehabilitation services;
- (f) to promote community awareness of the disease;
- (g) to provide training to all health workers in the diagnosis and management of Mycetoma;
- (h) to add Mycetoma as one of the priority of neglected tropical diseases;

(OP2) ENCOURAGES all Member States:

- (a) to intensify research to develop tools to diagnose, treat and prevent the disease, and to integrate Mycetoma into the national disease-surveillance system;
- (b) to intensify community participation in the recognition of disease symptoms and prevention;

(OP3) CALLS UPON the international community, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, donors, non-governmental organization, foundations and research institutions:

- (a) to cooperate directly with countries in which the disease is endemic in order to strengthen control and research activities;
- (b) to develop partnerships and to foster collaboration with organizations and programmes involved in health-system development in order to ensure that effective interventions can reach all those in need;
- (c) to provide support to the Mycetoma Collaborating Centres;

(OP4) REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (a) to continue to provide technical support to the Mycetoma Collaborating Centers, in order particularly to advance understanding of the disease burden and to improve early access to diagnosis and treatment by general strengthening of health infrastructure;
- (b) to foster technical cooperation among countries as a means of strengthening surveillance, control and rehabilitation services;
- (c) to promote research on better diagnostic, treatment and preventive tools through coordination by, and support from, the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases.

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