



**FIFTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

**WHA56.17**

**Agenda item 18.1**

**28 May 2003**

## **Human resources: gender balance**

The Fifty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Having noted the report on gender balance;<sup>1</sup>

Recalling resolution WHA50.16 on employment and participation of women in the work of WHO;

Concerned that the targets set have not been reached, and that progress across the Organization has been uneven,

1. REAFFIRMS the target of 50% for appointments of women to professional and higher-category posts;
2. REQUESTS the Director-General to redouble efforts in order to achieve the target of parity in gender distribution among professional staff, and to raise the proportion of women at senior level and to report back on an action plan for recruitment that integrates gender and geographical balance to the Executive Board in January 2004.

Tenth plenary meeting, 28 May 2003  
A56/VR/10

= = =

---

<sup>1</sup> Document A56/39.