



FIFTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA56.6

Agenda item 14.18

26 May 2003

International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata: twenty-fifth anniversary

The Fifty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Primary Health Care;¹

Recalling with appreciation the Declaration adopted at the International Conference on Primary Health Care held in Alma-Ata in 1978, which identified primary health care as the key to the achievement of health for all;

Acknowledging WHO's goal of health for all and the progress made by countries to establish primary health care policies and programmes as a cornerstone of their health care systems, while noting that much still needs to be done to reach the goal of health for all;

Recognizing the dedication, leadership and commitment to achieving the goal of health for all of Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, and nongovernmental organizations,

1. REQUESTS Member States:

- (1) to ensure that development of primary health care is adequately resourced in order to contribute to the reduction of health inequalities;
- (2) to strengthen human resource capability for primary health care in order to tackle the rising burdens of health conditions;
- (3) to support the active involvement of local communities and voluntary groups in primary health care;
- (4) to support research in order to identify effective methods for monitoring and strengthening primary health care and linking it to overall improvement of the health system;

¹ Document A56/27.

2. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Alma-Ata Declaration by convening a meeting with input from all stakeholders in order to examine the lessons of the past 25 years, review definitions and strategies, and identify future strategic directions for primary health care; and to provide support to the meeting through an extensive prior review of successes and failures, and factors that impact on primary health care;

(2) to continue to incorporate the principles of primary health care into the activities of all WHO's programmes, to ensure that the strategies to attain the Development Goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration are implemented, and to respond to the recommendations of the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health, assuring that they are consistent with the principles of primary health care;

(3) to report on progress to the Fifty-seventh World Health Assembly through the Executive Board at its 113th session.

Ninth plenary meeting, 26 May 2003
A56/VR/9

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