

## **Second report of Committee A**

Committee A held its fifth meeting on 22 May 2013. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Dr Walter T. Gwenigale (Liberia) and vice-chairmanship of Dr Lester Ross (Solomon Islands).

It was decided to recommend to the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly the adoption of the attached resolution relating to the following agenda item:

13 Noncommunicable diseases

13.4 Draft action plan for the prevention of avoidable blindness and visual impairment 2014–2019

One resolution, entitled:

- Towards universal eye health: a global action plan 2014–2019

## Agenda item 13.4

### **Towards universal eye health: a global action plan 2014–2019**

The Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report and draft global action plan 2014–2019 on universal eye health;<sup>1</sup>

Recalling resolutions WHA56.26 on elimination of avoidable blindness and WHA62.1 and WHA59.25 on prevention of avoidable blindness and visual impairment;

Recognizing that the global action plan 2014–2019 on universal eye health builds upon the action plan for the prevention of avoidable blindness and visual impairment for the period 2009–2013;

Recognizing that globally, 80% of all visual impairment can be prevented or cured and that about 90% of the world's visually impaired live in developing countries;

Recognizing the linkages between some areas of the global action plan 2014–2019 on universal eye health and efforts to address noncommunicable diseases and neglected tropical diseases,

1. ENDORSES the global action plan 2014–2019 on universal eye health;
2. URGES Member States:
  - (1) to strengthen national efforts to prevent avoidable visual impairment including blindness through, inter alia, better integration of eye health into national health plans and health service delivery, as appropriate;
  - (2) to implement the proposed actions in the global action plan 2014–2019 on universal eye health in accordance with national priorities, including universal and equitable access to services;
  - (3) to continue to implement the actions agreed by the World Health Assembly in resolution WHA62.1 on prevention of blindness and visual impairment and the action plan for the prevention of blindness and visual impairment for the period 2009–2013;
  - (4) to continue to support the work of the WHO Secretariat to implement the current action plan up to 2013;
  - (5) to consider programme and budget implications related to implementation of this resolution within the context of the broader programme budget;

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<sup>1</sup> Document A66/11.

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) to provide technical support to Member States for the implementation of the proposed actions in the global action plan 2014–2019 on universal eye health in accordance with national priorities;
- (2) to further develop the global action plan 2014–2019 on universal eye health in particular with regard to the inclusion of universal and equitable access to services;
- (3) to continue to give priority to the prevention of avoidable visual impairment, including blindness, and to consider allocating resources for the implementation of the global action plan 2014–2019 on universal eye health;
- (4) to report to the Seventieth and Seventy-third World Health Assemblies, in 2017 and 2020 respectively, through the Executive Board, on progress in implementing the action plan.

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