

AFR/RC21/R6:

The Regional Committee,

Having studied the report¹ on long-term planning for the development of human resources;

Recalling resolutions AFR/RC18/R5 and AFR/RC19/R6 of the eighteenth and nineteenth sessions on education and training;

Considering resolutions WHA21.49 and WHA22.53 on long-term planning in the health field;

Taking into account resolution WHA24.59 of the Twenty-fourth World Health Assembly which stresses the importance of current and long-term planning of the training of national health personnel in accordance with each country's objectives, needs, and existing social and economic resources,

1. CONGRATULATES the Regional Director and his staff on having begun progressive implementation of a long-term planning process for the development of human resources in the health field;
2. RECOMMENDS that Member States:
 - (i) develop, as from 1980, ten-year health plans;
 - (ii) improve the collection and analysis of statistical data with a view to rational planning of health personnel needs;
 - (iii) establish or develop the necessary training centres for producing qualified professional and auxiliary staff in sufficient numbers and possessing the requisite qualities;
 - (iv) accord particular attention to the problem of rational utilization of trained staff by evaluating activities in regard to development of human resources every five years;
3. INVITES the Regional Director to use every available means of:
 - (i) strengthening assistance to governments in the field of national health planning, particularly with regard to human resources;
 - (ii) accelerating the teacher training programme in Africa;
 - (iii) developing the teaching of public health, particularly the administration and management of health services;
 - (iv) intensifying activities concerning applied research in the fields of educational methodology and technology for the training of health personnel in Africa;

¹ Document AFR/RC21/8.

- (v) developing activities relating to the dissemination and exchange of scientific information;
 - (vi) strengthening the fellowship programme, particularly for studies in educational establishment in Africa;
 - (vii) evaluating every five years at the regional level the activities on development of human resources and the fellowship programmes;
4. RECOMMENDS to the Regional Director that he transmit to the Director-General these long-term estimates of the future development of human resources to meet the needs of the health services;
 5. REQUESTS the Director-General to place at the disposal of the Regional Director all the necessary means and resources for the implementation of a programme so vital to public health in Africa.

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