EM/RC45/R.3

EMERGING AND RESURGING DISEASES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MALARIA

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the technical paper on emerging and resurging diseases in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, with special reference to malaria;

Recalling resolution EM/RC43/R.14 on a regional strategic plan in response to emerging and re-emerging diseases and resolution EM/RC40/R.10 on malaria control;

Concerned about the potential hazards from emerging and re-emerging diseases;

Recognizing the epidemic potential of malaria in countries with the afrotropical type of the disease and the potential threat of re-establishing malaria endemicity in areas where transmission has been interrupted;

Acknowledging the global initiative of Roll Back Malaria and expressing its hope that the initiative will provide substantive support to national malaria control programmes in the Region;

1. THANKS the Regional Director for his report;

2. URGES all Member States to:

   2.1 Continue strengthening their epidemiological surveillance of infectious diseases and their capabilities to respond to the emergence of these diseases in line with the regional plan on emerging and re-emerging diseases;

   2.2 Promote cooperation with neighbouring countries in surveillance and prevention and control of imported infectious diseases;

   2.3 Promote applied research related to emerging infectious diseases including malaria;

3. URGES Member States with the afrotropical type of malaria to:

   3.1 Strengthen national capabilities in early diagnosis, case management, forecasting and prevention and control of malaria epidemics;

   3.2 Promote the use of personal protection measures, especially the use of protective insecticide-impregnated materials;

1 Document EM/RC45/9
4. **URGES** Member States that have achieved interruption of malaria transmission to:

4.1 Continue to identify and control any re-introduction of the disease at an early stage;

4.2 Support activities towards malaria eradication in areas where it is feasible;

5. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to report regularly to the Regional Committee on progress made in the prevention and control of emerging and re-emerging diseases with special reference to malaria.