The Forty-ninth Regional Committee,

Concerned at the high prevalence of the different forms of micronutrient deficiency disorders affecting the children and women of the Region;

Recognizing the health benefits of the elimination of iodine deficiency disorders through universal salt iodization and the impressive results gained in the control and prevention of iron deficiency and its anaemia through fortification of flour with iron and folic acid;

Noting the new move towards fortification of edible oils and fats for the control and prevention of vitamin A deficiency disorders;

1. **URGES** Member States to:

   1.1 Sustain efforts and enact legislation for the universal iodization of salts for human consumption at the safe level recommended by WHO, UNICEF and ICCIDD in 2000;

   1.2 Establish adequate monitoring and evaluation systems to measure IDD-free status of the population;

   1.3 Commit to the rapid and comprehensive fortification with iron and folic acid of all wheat flour for human consumption;

   1.4 Consider strongly the fortification of edible oils and fats with vitamin A and D to overcome the widely prevalent forms of subclinical vitamin A deficiency disorders;

2. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to:

   2.1 Provide technical support to Member States in enhancing the implementation of food fortification as required;

   2.2 Keep the Regional Committee informed of progress in food fortification.