



مَنْظَرُ الصِّحَّةِ الْعَالَمِيَّةِ

قرار

RESOLUTION

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

EM/RC50/R.10
October 2003

Fiftieth Session

Agenda item 8 (b)

**HEALTH CARE OF THE ELDERLY IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION:
CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES**

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the technical paper on health care of the elderly in the Eastern Mediterranean Region: challenges and perspectives¹;

Recalling resolution EM/RC38/R.7 on Health of the elderly and problems of the handicapped elderly;

Noting with concern the challenges for health and socioeconomic development associated with the rapid increase in the number and percentage of persons of 60 years and above in all countries of the Region;

Acknowledging the increased awareness in the Member States of the Region of the consequences of population ageing and their efforts to formulate policies and to develop or strengthen programmes for the health of older persons;

Recognizing also the potential to increase the valuable contribution older persons make to society;

1. **URGES** Member States to:

- 1.1 Review national policies, strategies and plans of action to ensure the promotion of healthy lifestyles throughout the life course and the comprehensive care of older persons;
- 1.2 Develop programmes that delay the onset of disability, ameliorate its trajectory and enhance older people's capacity to take better care of themselves, such as the active ageing approach;

¹ Document EM/RC50/6

- 1.3 Support and encourage family and community caregivers of older people and promote the retention of appropriate traditional care and positive social and cultural values and practices;

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

- 2.1 Support the development of multidisciplinary regional and national networks among agencies, organizations, academic institutions and individuals concerned with and interested in providing care for older persons;
- 2.2 Update the regional strategy on the health care of older persons;
- 2.3 Continue to support Member States in promoting quality of life and well-being of older persons through approaches such as active ageing and community-based programmes or services for older people;
- 2.4 Develop a computerized database on the status of the ageing population in the Region.
- 2.5 Develop appropriate health education materials to prepare people for the process of ageing.