THE IMPACT OF HEALTH EXPENDITURE ON HOUSEHOLDS AND OPTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE FINANCING

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the technical paper on the impact of health expenditure on households and options for alternative financing;

Being aware of the high rate of direct spending on health care in countries of the Region which can lead many households into poverty;

Concerned at the lack of development of effective prepayment schemes in many Member States;

1. **URGES** Member States to:

   1.1 Formulate policies, strategies and plans of action to reduce direct expenditure on health care;

   1.2 Expedite efforts to develop and implement the appropriate prepayment schemes;

   1.3 Build technical capacity to plan, develop, implement and monitor performance of prepayment schemes;

   1.4 Invest in development of analytical tools, such as national health accounts, cost-effectiveness studies and household expenditure surveys, required for successful planning, implementation and monitoring of prepayment schemes;

   1.5 Invest in developing primary health care services so that they become more attractive to those seeking health care;

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1 Document EM/RC51/4
2. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to continue to support Member States in their efforts to formulate policies, strategies and plans of action to reduce direct expenditure on health care and develop appropriate prepayment schemes through technical assistance and national capacity-building.