

RESOLUTION

OF THE

WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

SEA/RC66/R7

EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF MEDICINES

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the Secretariat's progress report on Resolution SEA/RC64/R5 on National Essential Drug Policy including the rational use of medicines and the recommendations of the Regional Consultation on Effective Management of Medicines, 23–26 April 2013, in Bangkok;

Noting that irrational use of medicines continues and that its causes are multifactorial and include problems of effective management of medicines;

Understanding that effective management of medicines requires efficient systems with regard to medicines supply, medicines selection, medicines use, medicines regulation, medicines policy, and coordination of all these;

Recognizing that a coordinated, comprehensive, national health systems approach is needed to promote rational use of medicines and ensure effective management of medicines;

Knowing that effective management of medicines is a high priority for the Region,

1. ENDORSES the progress report of Resolution SEA/RC64/R5, including its recommendations;

2. URGES Member States:

- (1) to invest in all areas of medicines management and to implement, as appropriate, the recommendations with regard to medicines regulation, medicines policy and coordination, medicines supply, medicines selection and use, as agreed at the

Regional Consultation on Effective Management of Medicines 23–26 April 2013 in Bangkok and as stated in the progress report;

- (2) to speed up implementation of recommendations in Resolution SEA/RC64/R5;
- (3) to undertake a situational analysis of medicines in health-care delivery at least every four years for monitoring and planning purposes and to publish such reports.

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (1) to continue to collect, share and analyse reports on use of medicines and policy implementation to use for advocacy and to monitor progress;
- (2) to develop a tool for country use from the protocol used by the WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia for situational analyses and to support countries to undertake such analyses at least every four years for monitoring and planning purposes;
- (3) to convene a regional meeting at least every four years to share information on progress and plan the way forward;
- (4) to appoint sufficient dedicated personnel and allocate adequate resources for the management of medicines at regional and/or country level to ensure meaningful technical collaboration and ensure better coordinated support from partners;
- (5) to provide technical support and explore options of assisting small countries with procurement of medicines to achieve economies of scale and quality assurance;
- (6) to report biennially to Member States at the Regional Committee on progress achieved, problems encountered and further actions proposed to ensure effective management of medicines.

Sixth session, 13 September 2013