

SEA/RC52/R5 ROLL BACK MALARIA

The Regional Committee,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolution WHA52.11 relating to Roll Back Malaria,

Considering that malaria causes high morbidity and loss of productivity, particularly among the poor and vulnerable groups, such as pregnant women, children and migrant populations,

Recognizing the urgent need to accord high priority to malaria control,

Realizing the significant contribution of malaria to the burden of disease in the Region and its adverse economic consequences for the poor, and

Noting that Roll Back Malaria represents a new approach to improving equity in health,

Urges Member States:

- to demonstrate national commitment towards the RBM initiative;
- to promote and support the RBM initiative by integrating malaria control activities with the prevention and control programmes of other communicable diseases within existing PHC settings and district health systems;
- to mobilize resources for sustaining evidence-based strategies to ensure concerted and sustainable efforts for RBM;
- to collaborate with neighbouring countries regarding activities related to, among others, the monitoring of multi-drug resistance, vector resistance to insecticides, and enhancing epidemic preparedness and response, and
- to promote multiple preventive measures to reduce malaria transmission by locally acceptable means and to ensure rational use of insecticides both in public health and in agriculture and strengthen policy frameworks and guidelines to meet the emerging requirements, and

Requests the Regional Director:

- to enhance the capacity of the programme for securing and mobilizing community participation, intersectoral collaboration and cooperation to roll back malaria;
- to develop the technical capacity of the public health delivery system, including that of the private sector in the Member States, for prevention of malaria, early diagnosis and prompt treatment, and

- to identify the available resources in the Member States and extend the required technical and financial support to help develop a network of experts and research institutions to substantially improve the quality of the programme.

Sixth Meeting, 8 September 1999