

The Regional Committee,

Recalling the resolutions of the fourteenth session of the Regional Committee (SEA/RC14/R2) and of the Sixteenth World Health Assembly (WHA16.37) urging countries to carry out and intensify smallpox control and eradication programmes, and

Knowing that smallpox often is transmitted from country to country by travelers, especially through population movements between countries with common borders,

1        RECOGNIZES the urgent need for neighbouring countries with endemic smallpox to synchronize their smallpox eradication programmes in the adjoining areas;

2        RECOMMENDS that governments of such countries which do not find it immediately possible to embark on eradication programmes should intensify smallpox control activities in those areas adjacent to the borders, and

3        REQUESTS the Regional Director to promote regular inter-country meetings between the countries concerned to discuss this problem and co-ordinate activities.