

The Regional Committee,

Having considered those parts of the report of the Regional Director for the period July 1985 to June 1987 referring to the development, improvement and transfer of health technology and the report of the Regional Director on the development of health research;¹

Commending the outcome of the meeting of the working group on international cooperation in technology transfer in the health field, held in 1985, and the bi-regional conference on the same subject, held in 1987;

1. NOTES with satisfaction the efforts made by Member States to promote the development, use and transfer of technology as well as the continuous support provided by the Regional Director in this area;

2. URGES Member States:

(1) to formulate strategies for health technology development which take into account all aspects of technology transfer, with emphasis on promoting an interdependent relationship among providers and users in a spirit of partnership and equity, and on making technology available to the largest possible number of people;

(2) to set up an appropriate national coordinating mechanism for the evaluation of new technology;

(3) to foster the development of a critical mass of trained personnel capable of appreciating the significance of new technology and assisting in the promotion of relevant research;

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(1) to continue to play a leading role in the promotion and coordination of technology transfer so as to ensure the application of health technology within the framework of the health-for-all strategy based on primary health care;

(2) to collaborate in the development of a regional technology transfer network among both governmental and nongovernmental organizations and the institutions of Member States aimed at sharing experiences, expertise and technology in specific areas of need, optimizing the use of available resources, and minimizing duplication of efforts;

(3) to take appropriate steps to further develop and strengthen the role of WHO in collecting, assessing and disseminating information on health technology and technology transfer.

Seventh meeting, 11 September 1987

¹ Document WPR/RC38/2.