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ORIGINAL: FRENCH

RESOLUTION

DIABETES PREVENTION AND CONTROL: A STRATEGY FOR THE WHO AFRICAN REGION (document AFR/RC57/7)

The Regional Committee,

Noting the report of the Regional Director entitled “Diabetes prevention and control: A strategy for the African Region”;

Aware of the rapid increase in the prevalence of diabetes and other noncommunicable diseases and the high burden of communicable diseases which constitute a double burden for health systems and a factor aggravating poverty among the people;

Recalling resolutions WHA42.36¹, WHA53.17², WHA57.16³, WHA57.17⁴, EB 120/22⁵, AFR/RC50/R4⁶ and AFR/RC55/R4⁷, urging the intensification of measures to control diabetes and cardiovascular diseases and efforts by Member States and their partners in this area;

Recalling United Nations General Assembly Resolution 61/225 of December 2006 instituting World Diabetes Day;

Recalling further the relevance of primary prevention and the integrated approach to noncommunicable disease surveillance and management, including the control of their common risk factors;

Acknowledging the need for sustainable community action to ensure better prevention and control of diabetes at all levels of the health system, especially the primary level;

Acknowledging further the importance of the continuing availability, accessibility, affordability and safety of medicines, particularly insulin, to diabetes patients;

¹ WHA42.36 (1989) Prevention and control of diabetes.

² WHA53.17 (2000) Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases.

³ WHA57.16 (2004) Health promotion and healthy lifestyles.

⁴ WHA57.17 (2004) Global strategy on diet, physical activity and health.

⁵ EB 120/22 (2007) Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases: Implementation of the global strategy.

⁶ AFR/RC50/R4 (2000) Noncommunicable diseases: A strategy for the African Region.

⁷ AFR/RC55/R4 (2005) Cardiovascular diseases in the African Region: Current situation and perspectives.

1. APPROVES the document entitled “Diabetes prevention and control: A strategy for the WHO African Region”;
2. URGES Member States:
 - (a) to develop or strengthen national policies, plans, or programmes targeted at diabetes and noncommunicable diseases;
 - (b) to develop and implement integrated surveillance and primary prevention activities for noncommunicable diseases, including diabetes, and based on the common risk factors approach;
 - (c) to strengthen the mobilization and allocation of resources for diabetes prevention and control, and to ensure the availability, affordability and safety of medicines;
 - (d) to conduct STEPwise surveys at least every three years;
 - (e) to develop and implement strategies for the retention of their skilled human resources for health;
 - (f) to develop partnerships with the pharmaceutical industry, scientific foundations and philanthropic organizations to accelerate the implementation of national strategies;
3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to provide technical support to Member States for surveillance and the development and strengthening of national policies and programmes for the control of diabetes and other noncommunicable diseases;
 - (b) to increase support for the training of health professionals in control of diabetes and other noncommunicable diseases by evaluating the programmes implemented in the Region;
 - (c) to maintain and strengthen WHO’s collaboration with all the partners involved in diabetes control;
 - (d) to promote the mobilization of additional financial resources for the implementation of the present strategy and bargain with partners and pharmaceutical companies on the availability and affordability of medicines;
 - (e) to advocate for reduction in the cost of diagnostics and medicines for diabetes and noncommunicable diseases.