

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the report of the Regional Director on the prevention and control of cardiovascular diseases;¹

Recalling resolutions WHA36.32 and WPR/RC34.R15 on the prevention and control of cardiovascular diseases;

Recognizing the increasing importance of cardiovascular diseases as a public health problem in the Region;

Noting the recent progress in developing the regional programme;

Acknowledging with gratitude the contributions to the programme already made from extrabudgetary resources;

1. URGES Member States:

(1) to continue their efforts to initiate and further develop programmes for the prevention and control of cardiovascular diseases as an integral part of their national health plans, with activities focused on:

(a) the preventive aspects of the diseases, with emphasis on life-style changes such as proper nutrition, regular physical activity and non-smoking;

(b) education of the public, with emphasis on the inclusion of health education in the school curriculum at primary and secondary school levels;

(c) training of health and health-related personnel, with emphasis on primary health care;

(d) promotion of health systems research;

- (e) the integration of community control activities on diabetes mellitus with those on cardiovascular diseases, in countries or areas where they are both major health problems;
- (2) to give serious consideration to the establishment of responsible units or focal points in their health ministries for the above-mentioned activities;

2. REQUESTS those Member States in a position to do so to provide further technical and financial support to other countries of the Region in the development and implementation of their programmes;

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(1) to intensify cooperation with Member States in establishing or strengthening programmes for the prevention and control of cardiovascular diseases, using a community-based approach and commencing in selected areas;

(2) to continue to mobilize and augment resources in support of programmes for the prevention and control of cardiovascular diseases;

(3) to transmit this resolution to the Director-General and to coordinate the regional activities with the relevant activities at global level.

¹ Document WPR/RC36/15.