

## WHA20.19 Compendium of Recommendations, Definitions and Standards relating to Health Statistics

The Twentieth World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolution WHA19.45;

Appreciating the desirability of a compendium of recommendations, definitions and standards relating to health statistics;

Recognizing the need, pending the preparation of such a compendium, of guidance on matters which will shortly cease to be the subject of regulations; and

Having regard to the authority provided by Article 23 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization,

1. ADOPTS recommendations<sup>1</sup> on the following subjects:

- (a) responsibility for medical certification of cause of death,
- (b) the form of medical certificate of cause of death,
- (c) preservation of the confidential nature of information given by the physician,
- (d) the rules for selection of the cause for mortality tabulation,
- (e) the coding of mortality and morbidity statistics,
- (f) classification by cause, age, and area in statistical tables,
- (g) cross-classification by cause, age, and area in tabulation of causes of death,
- (h) the definition of causes of death, and
- (i) the definition of the underlying cause of death,

together with the short lists for tabulation of causes of mortality and morbidity, Lists A, B, C, D, and P;<sup>2</sup>

2. DECIDES that these recommendations shall become effective on 1 January 1968; and

3. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that, where a Member contemplates making any reservations under Article 8 of the WHO Nomenclature Regulations, it consider the desirability of prior consultation with the Director-General of the Organization concerning the content and form of any such reservations which might be made.