## WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



# ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE

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#### **RESOLUTION**

## REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

EM/RC55/R.5 October 2008

**Fifty-fifth Session** 

#### Promoting nursing and midwifery development in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the technical paper on promoting nursing and midwifery development in the Eastern Mediterranean Region<sup>1</sup>;

Recalling resolutions EM/RC41/R.10 The need for national planning for nursing and midwifery in the Eastern Mediterranean Region and EM/RC45/R.12 Improving the quality of nursing and midwifery in the Eastern Mediterranean Region;

Concerned at the global and regional shortage of nurses and midwives and the gaps in provision of well educated and motivated nurses and midwives;

Concerned also at the renewed challenges imposed by globalization and migration of nurses and midwives;

Noting the achievements in developing basic nursing and midwifery education;

#### 1. **URGES** Member States to:

- 1.1 Rapidly scale up the nursing and midwifery workforce to address disparities in supply and demand, including the low proportion of nationals in some nursing and midwifery workforces, and develop a strategy for their retention, including promoting the role and status of nurses and developing clear career paths;
- 1.2 Continue to strengthen nursing and midwifery regulatory systems, including establishment of nursing and midwifery councils;
- 1.3 Develop bilateral agreements and ethical codes of conduct to manage the migration of nurses and midwives and to promote cooperation between countries in the production and recruitment of nurses and midwives;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Document no. EM/RC55/5

1.4 Implement measures to ensure that the contribution of nursing and midwifery services and national nursing strategic plans are reflected in the overall health policies and plans;

### 2. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to:

- 2.1 Develop a new comprehensive regional strategy for nursing and midwifery, in consultation with Member States;
- 2.2 Support Member States in their efforts to scale up nursing and midwifery capacity, creating positive practice environments, developing strong committed leadership and advocating for new specialized roles.