WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE

قىرار

Resolution

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

EM/RC56/R.10 October 2009

Fifty-sixth Session

Agenda item 9

A World Health Organization code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the background paper on a World Health Organization code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel¹;

Recalling resolution WHA57.19 International migration of health personnel: a challenge for health systems in developing countries;

Deeply concerned that the recruitment of highly educated and trained health personnel from countries with health systems in crisis is increasing, further weakening the health systems of the countries of origin;

Alarmed that the severe shortage of health workers constitutes a major threat to the performance of health systems and undermines the ability of these countries to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed goals;

Noting that movement of health workers between countries is a complex multidimensional issue that cannot be addressed by countries unilaterally and that global cooperation is an essential component of strengthening health workforce capacities in all countries.

Recognizing the rights of health workers to leave their countries and to move to countries that wish to admit and employ them;

¹ Document no. EMRC56/INF.Doc.8

Further recognizing that movement of health workers back to their countries of origin can enhance the education of health professionals and that bilateral agreements between source and destination States towards this end are important;

Underscoring that the principles of transparency, fairness and solidarity should be core elements of a WHO code of practice;

Stressing the importance of establishing mechanisms to monitor international recruitment of health workers;

Emphasizing that adoption and implementation of a voluntary WHO code of practice should be core components of national and global responses to the challenges of international recruitment of health workers:

1. **URGES** Member States to:

- 1.1 Undertake appropriate national and regional consultations in coordination with all stakeholders in preparation for global deliberations on a WHO code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel;
- 1.2 Give full support to the development, adoption and comprehensive implementation of the provisions of a voluntary WHO code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel.
- 2. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to provide appropriate technical support to all countries, upon request, in preparation for national consultations on a WHO code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel and convene and facilitate regional and interregional consultations, as necessary, in preparation for global deliberations on such a code of practice.