WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE

قــرار

RESOLUTION

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

EM/RC51/R.10 October 2004

Fifty-first Session

Agenda item 7 (b)

VACCINE DEVELOPMENT, ACCESSIBILITY AND AVAILABILITY: TOWARDS SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION

The Regional Committee,

Having discussed the technical paper on vaccine development, accessibility and availability: towards self-sufficiency in the Eastern Mediterranean Region¹;

Recalling resolution EM/RC45/R.5 Regional self-reliance in the production of essential drugs and vaccines;

Acknowledging the efforts Member States have made in developing their production capabilities for essential drugs and vaccines;

Having considered the current situation with regard to the local production of vaccines in the Region;

Recognizing the challenges faced in promoting self-reliance in production of vaccines;

- 1. **REAFFIRMS** resolution EM/RC45/R.5;
- 2. **URGES** vaccine-producing countries to:
 - 2.1 Take necessary action to upgrade their National Regulatory Authorities to meet the WHO core six functions required for prequalification;
 - 2.2 Strengthen their national production capabilities to fully comply with the cGMP for vaccine production;

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¹ Document EM/RC51/Tech.Disc.2

- 2.3 Promote investment and public/private partnership in vaccine production and development and production and achieve regional self-sufficiency in quality vaccines at affordable cost;
- 2.4 Establish a coordination and collaboration mechanism in quality assurance, research and development in vaccine production, and foster the development of common policies in relation to self-sufficiency in vaccine production through regional and sub-regional networks;

3. **URGES** other Member States to:

- 3.1 Establish/strengthen a well functioning National Regulatory Authority to ensure the quality of vaccines available in the countries;
- 3.2 Consider buying vaccines from regional sources that comply with WHO qualification requirements;

4. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to:

- 4.1 Support countries in developing national strategies in vaccine self-sufficiency through capacity building and provision of technical expertise;
- 4.2 To facilitate networking of vaccine producers inside and outside the Region to improve quality and to promote access to cutting-edge technology, including biotechnology, in vaccine production;
- 4.3 To foster partnership with appropriate financial institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank, in the area of self-sufficiency in vaccines.