WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## DE LA SANTE

**ORGANISATION MONDIALE** 

### Resolution

# REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Sixtieth Session Agenda item 2 EM/RC60/R.1 October 2013

### Annual report of the Regional Director for 2012 and progress reports

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Annual report of the Regional Director on the work of WHO in the Eastern Mediterranean Region for 2012<sup>1</sup>, the progress reports requested by the Regional Committee and recent developments in the Region;

Recalling resolutions EM/RC59/R.1 on the annual report of the Regional Director 2011; EM/RC57/R.5 on the regional strategy for health sector response to HIV 2011-2015; WHA39.27, WHA41.16 and WHA47.13 on the rational use of medicines and EM/RC49/R.10 on antimicrobial resistance and rational use of antimicrobial agents; and EM/RC59/R.6 on WHO managerial reform;

Concerned at the difficulty faced by middle-income Member States with regard to affordability and secure access to vaccines, particularly new and underutilized vaccines;

Concerned also at the alarming situation in the Region, where 85% of people who need lifesaving antiretroviral therapy for HIV do not receive it, and where new HIV infections and AIDS deaths are on the rise while they are declining globally;

Noting that antimicrobial resistance is a growing problem in the Region that imposes a significant health and economic burden on the Member States;

- 1. THANKS the Regional Director for his report on the work of WHO in the Region;
- 2. **ADOPTS** the annual report of the Regional Director for 2012;
- 3. **REAFFIRMS** its request to Member States to consider increasing the level of assessed contributions to the Organization through collective action in the governing bodies;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Document No: EM/RC60/2

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

- 4.1 Take immediate action, if they are interested middle-income countries, to participate in the pooled vaccine procurement system and to sign a memorandum of understanding with WHO and UNICEF to complete the participation process by end 2013;
- 4.2 Set ambitious annual HIV testing and treatment targets and take urgent action to accelerate treatment access and thus end the HIV treatment crisis;
- 4.3 Establish a robust antimicrobial resistance surveillance system, including clinical and laboratory surveillance, and ensure enforcement of rules and regulations for rational use of antimicrobials at all levels;
- 4.4 Build on the experience of the 2014–2015 operational planning process in the Region and play an active role in suggesting ways to improve the bottom-up Programme Budget planning exercise 2016–2017;
- 4.5 Advocate, at the first stage of the 2016–2017 planning exercise, for an open budget envelope allocated to countries for the prioritization exercise without any subdivision by category, establishing a detailed budgeting only in the subsequent phase as a result of the initial planning at country level;
- 5. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to:
  - 5.1 Confirm with interested Member States their commitment to implementing the proposed pooled vaccine procurement system;
  - 5.2 Support Member States in developing and implementing strategies and service-delivery approaches for rapid scale-up of HIV treatment, as recommended by WHO and UNAIDS in the regional report *Accelerating HIV treatment*;
  - 5.3 Encourage coordinated and country-based planning for 2016–2017 involving all the three levels of the Organization along the principle of subsidiarity;
  - 5.4 Contribute to the improvement of the planning cycle by improving the mechanisms of monitoring and evaluation of progress on agreed commitments.