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Resolution

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REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE  
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

EM/RC60/R.2  
October 2013

Sixtieth Session  
Agenda item 4(b)

**Universal health coverage**

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the technical discussion paper on universal health coverage<sup>1</sup>;

Recalling resolutions WHA64.9 and WHA58.33 on sustainable health financing structures and universal coverage; EM/RC57/R.7 on strategic directions to improve health care financing; and EM/RC59/R.3 on health systems strengthening;

Recognizing that WHO's comprehensive approach to universal health coverage embraces the values and principles of primary health care;

Taking note of the World Health Report 2010 *Health systems financing: the path to universal coverage* and the World Health Report 2013 *Research for universal health coverage*;

**1. CALLS ON** Member States to:

- 1.1 Ensure sustained political commitment to universal health coverage in order to ensure that all people have access to essential health services that are of sufficient quality, without the risk of financial hardship, and to achieve the health system goals;
- 1.2 Develop evidence-based national health financing strategies that support the pursuit of universal health coverage, undertaking necessary analytical and diagnostic work;
- 1.3 Expand the provision of integrated people-centred health services that address the major burden of ill-health and are based on primary health care;
- 1.4 Progressively expand coverage to all the population, including deprived groups, rural populations and those working in the informal sector, by introducing and expanding equitable, fair and efficient prepayment arrangements;
- 1.5 Monitor and evaluate progress towards universal health coverage and make use of disaggregated data to monitor equity;

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<sup>1</sup> Document Number: EM/RC60/Tech.Disc.2

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

- 2.1 Provide technical support for the development of a country-specific vision, strategy and roadmap to move towards universal health coverage through inclusive and effective policy dialogue;
- 2.2 Build Member States' capacity to undertake necessary diagnostic and analytical work, and facilitate sharing of experiences and joint learning for universal health coverage;
- 2.3 Assist Member States to generate and mobilize resources in order to progress towards universal health coverage;
- 2.4 Develop a framework that allows monitoring of universal health coverage in line with its three dimensions in Member States;
- 2.5 Monitor progress towards universal health coverage in the Region and report back to the Regional Committee in two years.