WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE

قسرار

Resolution

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

EM/RC60/R.5 October 2013

Sixtieth Session Agenda item 4(a)

Regional strategy on health and the environment 2014–2019

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the technical discussion paper on the regional strategy on health and the environment¹;

Recalling resolutions WHA64.24, EM/RC/31/R.12 and EM/RC32/R.14 on water, sanitation and health; EM/RC49/R8 on health effects of environmental conditions; WHA63.25, WHA59.15, WHA50.13, WHA45.32, WHA31.28 and WHA30.47 on chemical safety and waste management; and WHA61.19 and EM/RC55/R8 on climate change and health;

Recognizing the leadership role of ministries of health in governance, regulation and surveillance of health and the environment, as well as in catalysing necessary action by other sectors;

Concerned that over one fifth of the burden of communicable diseases, noncommunicable diseases and injuries in the Eastern Mediterranean Region is attributable to modifiable environmental risks;

Noting the outcome of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 which called for action on the social and environmental determinants of health;

- 1. **ENDORSES** the regional strategy on health and the environment 2014–2019 and its framework for action in the Eastern Mediterranean Region;
- 2. **CALLS ON** Member States to:
 - 2.1 Establish a national plan for the implementation and adoption of this strategy;
 - 2.2 Integrate environmental concerns into national development plans and public health policies, strategies and plans of action;

¹ Document No: EM/RC60/Tech.Disc.1

- 2.3 Strengthen the institutional capacities of ministries of health to work with other relevant ministries and sectors and to assume the leadership role in governance, regulation and surveillance of health and the environment;
- 2.4 Catalyse and synergize actions by all stakeholders in related sectors and relevant service providers to protect health from environmental risks by adopting a collaborative multisectoral approach;

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

- 3.1 Provide technical support to Member States to adapt and implement the regional strategy on health and the environment;
- 3.2 Build partnerships with United Nations organizations and other relevant stakeholders to facilitate the implementation of the strategy;
- 3.3 Monitor and report to the Regional Committee the progress achieved in the implementation of the strategy every two years until 2019.