



---

**Resolution**

---

**REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE  
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN**

**EM/RC61/R.1  
October 2014**

**Sixty-first Session  
Agenda item 3(a)**

**Annual report of the Regional Director for 2013**

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Annual report of the Regional Director on the work of WHO in the Eastern Mediterranean Region for 2013, the progress reports requested by the Regional Committee, and the proposed programme budget 2016–2017<sup>1</sup>;

Recalling resolutions EM/RC59/R.6 on WHO managerial reform; EM/RC60/R.1 on the annual report of the Regional Director 2012; EM/RC59/R.3 on health systems strengthening, EM/RC60/R.2 on universal health coverage, EM/RC60/R.6 on saving the lives of mothers and children, EM/RC60/R.7 on the regional strategy for the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics systems 2014–2019 and EM/RC60/R.8 on monitoring health situation, trends and health system performance; World Health Assembly resolution WHA64.10 on strengthening national health emergency and disaster management capacities and the resilience of health systems, resolutions EM/RC52/R.2 and EM/RC57.R2 on emergency preparedness and response and regional emergency solidarity fund and EM/RC59/R. 1 on the annual report of the Regional Director 2011;

Noting with concern the disproportionate allocation of funding between the four operational budget segments;

Acknowledging the efforts of the Regional Director to shift resources from regional to country level;

Reaffirming its commitment to pursuing universal health coverage based on the values and principles of primary health care and the right to affordable and quality health services, adopting a multisectoral approach;

Noting the progress made in assessing the status of civil registration and vital statistics systems, and in developing core indicators during the past two years;

Concerned also at the magnitude of the crises and emergencies prevailing in the Region and the lack of adequate emergency preparedness and capacity to respond;

---

<sup>1</sup> EM/RC61/2, EM/RC61/3, EM/RC61/3 Annex 1, EM/RC61/4, EM/RC61/INF.DOCs 1–6, EM/RC61/6, EM/RC61/7 and EM/RC61/Tech.Disc.2.

1. **THANKS** the Regional Director for his report on the work of WHO in the Region and commends its practical focus;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the progress made in the five key priority areas endorsed by the Regional Committee in its Fifty-ninth session;
3. **COMMENDS** the progress made by the Member States with a high burden of maternal and child mortality in implementing their maternal and child health acceleration plans;
4. **ENDORSES** the regional framework for health information systems and core indicators (annexed to this resolution);
5. **ADOPTS** the annual report of the Regional Director for 2013;
6. **CALLS ON** Member States to:
  - 6.1 Engage fully in the ongoing debate concerning the WHO reform process, given its impact on country programmes;
  - 6.2 Advocate with the Executive Board at its 136th session and the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly to increase substantially the proportion of the budget allocated for the segment on technical support to countries;
7. **CALLS FURTHER** on Member States to:
  - 7.1 Implement the regional framework for health information systems and report regularly on the core indicators starting from 2015;
  - 7.2 Consider implementing the regional framework for action on advancing universal health coverage in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, and develop and implement a national road map for universal health coverage based on the regional framework for action;
8. **URGES** Member States to:
  - 8.1 Take necessary action to implement previous resolutions on emergency preparedness and response;
  - 8.2 Strengthen the capacity of health systems to prevent, mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and crises following a whole-health and multisectoral approach, with special emphasis on reinforcing technical capacity in preparedness;
  - 8.3 Promote and, when possible, establish and test intercountry agreements for mutual assistance in case of a major emergency exceeding the coping capacity of the affected country;
  - 8.4 Contribute to the Emergency Solidarity Fund by allocating to it a minimum of 1% of the WHO country budget in addition to other voluntary contributions whenever possible;
  - 8.5 Contribute to the establishment of a regional logistics hub to stockpile vital medicines, medical supplies and other critical equipment needed for deployment to affected countries and communities at the onset of emergency;
  - 8.6 Develop a national cadre of emergency management experts and contribute, mainly through the secondment of such experts, to the regional surge roster of experts for rapid deployment in emergencies.

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

**WHO reform**

- 9.1 Continue his efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of WHO programme management tools and compliance instruments across the Region in order to further promote transparency and provide more effective technical support to Member States;
- 9.2 Advocate for the implementation of a full staff rotation and mobility scheme across the Organization, and not only within the Region;
- 9.3 Report to the next session of the Regional Committee on the progress made in implementing Regional Committee resolution EM/RC59/R.6 which requested Member States to consider the possibility of increasing the level of assessed contributions to the Organization through collective action in the governing bodies.

**Emergency preparedness and response**

- 9.4 Build on the positive experience of establishing a sub-regional emergency support team in Amman to develop sub-regional offices, along the models and practices in other WHO regions;
- 9.5 Establish an advisory group on emergency preparedness and response and ensure WHO organizational readiness for emergencies and crises by closely following up with Member States on the implementation of related resolutions and specifically, the establishing of a Regional Emergency Solidarity Fund, a regional logistics hub to ensure the pre-positioning of critical medical supplies, and a regional surge roster of experts for rapid deployment in emergencies.

# Framework for health information systems and core indicators

## Annex to resolution EM/RC61/R.1

### Health determinants and risks

#### Demographic and socioeconomic determinants

- Population size
- Population growth
- Total fertility
- Adolescent fertility (15-19 years)
- Net primary school enrolment ratio
- Proportion of population below the international poverty line
- Adult literacy rate (15-24 years)
- Access to improved drinking water
- Access to improved sanitation facilities

#### Risk factors

- Low birth weight
- Exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months
- Children under 5 who are stunted
- Children under 5 who are wasted
- Children under 5 who are overweight
- Children under 5 who are obese
- Overweight (13-18 years)
- Obesity (13-18 years)
- Overweight (18+ years)
- Obesity (18+ years)
- Tobacco use (13-15 years)
- Tobacco use (15+ years)
- Insufficient physical activity (13-18 years)
- Insufficient physical activity (18+ years)
- Raised blood glucose (18+ years)
- Raised blood pressure (18+ years)
- Anaemia among women of reproductive age

### Health status

#### Life expectancy and mortality

- Life expectancy at birth
- Neonatal mortality
- Infant mortality
- Under-5 mortality
- Maternal mortality ratio
- Mortality rate by main cause of death (age standardized)
- Mortality between ages 30 and 70 from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory diseases
- Mortality rate due to road traffic injuries

#### Morbidity

- Cancer incidence by type
- Tuberculosis case notification
- Estimated number of new HIV infections
- Number of newly reported HIV cases
- Incidence of confirmed malaria cases
- Incidence of measles cases

### Health system response

#### Health financing

- Per capita total health expenditure
- Out-of-pocket expenditure as % of total health expenditure
- General government expenditure on health as % of general government expenditure
- Population with catastrophic health expenditure
- Population impoverished due to out-of-pocket health expenditure

#### Health workforce

- Density of health workers: a) physicians b) nurses c) midwives d) pharmacists e) dentists
- Density of recent graduates of registered health profession educational institutions

#### Health information system

- Birth registration coverage
- Death registration coverage

#### Medicines and medical devices

- Availability of selected essential medicines in health facilities
- Density per million population of 6 selected medical devices in public and private health facilities

#### Service delivery

- Density of primary health care facilities
- Density of inpatient beds (hospitals)
- Surgical wound infection rate
- Annual number of outpatient department visits, per capita

#### Service coverage

- Need for contraception satisfied
- Antenatal care coverage (1+;4+)
- Skilled birth attendance
- DPT3/Pentavalent vaccination coverage among children under 1 year of age
- Measles immunization coverage (MCV1)
- Percentage of suspected malaria cases that have had a diagnostic test
- Percentage of individuals who slept under an ITN the previous night
- Percentage of key populations at higher risk (injecting drug users, sex workers, men who have sex with men) who have received an HIV test in the past 12 months and know their results
- Adults and children currently receiving ARV therapy among all adults and children living with HIV
- Treatment success rate of new bacteriologically confirmed tuberculosis cases
- Children under 5 with diarrhoea receiving oral rehydration therapy
- Service coverage for severe mental disorders