

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Regional Programme for Emergency Preparedness and Response and the progress report,* and in view of the need to overcome the obstacles and difficulties impeding emergency preparedness and response in the Member States of the Region,

1. ENDORSES the Regional Programme for Emergency Preparedness;
2. URGES Member States to give increasing attention and to follow-up the implementation of the recommendations of this resolution;
3. REQUESTS Member States to give special emphasis to Emergency Preparedness activities and to provide continuous support for the development of policies and strategies in all aspects of health sector emergency preparedness, including:
 - 3.1. seeking to formulate a national Emergency Preparedness Programme for the health sector;
 - 3.2. the establishment of an Emergency Preparedness Unit in the Ministry of Health to coordinate activities both in the preparedness and response phases;
 - 3.3. the inclusion of Emergency Preparedness in the curricula of health sector education at all levels;
 - 3.4. support the implementation of activities of the International Decade for National Disaster Reduction.
4. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:
 - 4.1. provide the necessary support to the Member States;
 - 4.2. implement the Regional Programme for Emergency Preparedness and Response.

* Document EM/RC36/11.