

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Regional Director's progress report on Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome,\* in pursuit of its resolution EM/RC37/R.13;

Noting with satisfaction the steps taken by WHO to respond to national and regional needs and the improvements in information exchange between countries;

Acknowledging the efforts made by national authorities and WHO in finding suitable approaches for the implementation of the major elements of the global strategy, taking full account of regional, cultural and social factors;

Feeling the necessity to intensify efforts towards maintaining the activities supporting national and regional AIDS control strategies;

Convinced that controlling AIDS and overcoming its consequences need continued support of the people, governments and WHO;

1. THANKS the Regional Director for the valuable and helpful report and for the efforts made in implementing the resolutions of the Regional Committee concerning AIDS;
2. URGES Member States to continue to:
  - 2.1 maintain national commitment to AIDS prevention and control through all possible means;
  - 2.2 enlist the active involvement of all individual groups, governmental and nongovernmental bodies concerned, in the national efforts against HIV infection and AIDS;
  - 2.3 provide accurate information about HIV/AIDS to the public in general and to health professionals and persons at increased risk of infection in particular;
  - 2.4 encourage research, especially studies to define behavioural patterns and resolve operational problems;
  - 2.5 apply strict precautions to ensure the safety of blood, blood products and tissue or organ donations;
  - 2.6 integrate national efforts against sexually transmitted diseases (STD) with those against HIV/AIDS, since it has been confirmed that STDs represent an important risk factor for HIV infection;
  - 2.7 provide necessary care and support to those in need and avoid stigmatization and discrimination with appropriate legal and social measures.
3. It is also recommended that the WHO Global Programme on AIDS (GPA) should continue to:
  - 3.1 support Member States, both technically and financially, in achieving the above objectives;
  - 3.2 provide the Regional Committee regularly with up-to-date information on the regional and global epidemiological situation, as well as operational achievements and developments;
  - 3.3 encourage cooperation and partnership among countries of the Region, and maintain close working relations with them;
  - 3.4 enhance coordination of efforts of all agencies involved in national AIDS control activities.

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\* Document EM/RC37/7(a).