

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Regional Director's report¹ on "Abuse of Narcotics and Psychoactive Drugs";

Considering the magnitude of the problem and recognizing that continued efforts are required for the prevention and control of this grave health, social and economic problem in the Region;

1. **URGES** Member States:

- 1.1 to provide the necessary commitment and support to a comprehensive, multisectoral programme for the prevention and control of drug abuse, using religious, cultural, educational and other resources for promoting healthy life-styles;
- 1.2 to establish reliable, up-to-date systems for collecting information about drugs, and to support upgrading of existing systems;
- 1.3 to share among themselves and with WHO information, technical expertise and experience on different aspects of drug abuse, treatment and rehabilitation;

2. **URGES** the Regional Director:

- 2.1 to provide to Member States the necessary technical support to develop regular data-collection mechanisms, thereby facilitating exchange of information and experience among themselves and between them and WHO;
- 2.2 to strengthen existing reference centres and to support the establishment of new centres in countries where drug abuse is a severe problem.

¹ Document EM/RC40/8.