

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Regional Director's report on the need for national planning for nursing and midwifery in the Eastern Mediterranean Region;⁶

Noting the actual and potential role of nursing and midwifery in promoting the health of individuals, the family and the community, as well as in the delivery of care in various health programmes;

Recognizing that effective implementation of national strategies for achieving the goal of health for all requires the availability of sufficient numbers of well-qualified nursing and midwifery personnel;

1. **THANKS** the Regional Director for his report;
2. **URGES** Member States:
 - 2.1 to establish and strengthen nursing units in the Ministries of Health to enable them to undertake a leading role in the development of nursing and midwifery services in the country;
 - 2.2 to give high priority to the development, within the national human resources policy, of plans aimed at improving the quality of nursing and midwifery services and meeting the health needs of the country, including locating nursing schools within the community;
 - 2.3 to provide training at all levels in nursing services management;
 - 2.4 to review and update the existing health legislation relating to nursing and midwifery practice and enact the necessary regulatory mechanisms to support nursing and midwifery practice;
 - 2.5 to improve the public image of the nursing profession through mass media and other social marketing approaches in order to encourage both males and females to join the profession.

⁶ Document EM/RC41/11.