

The Regional Committee,

Recalling its resolution EM/RC37/R.7 (1990) and World Health Assembly resolution WHA44.9 (1991);

Noting with satisfaction the success achieved in the control of leprosy in the majority of those Member Countries where leprosy is endemic;

Recognizing the opportunity for further reduction in the prevalence of leprosy through early case-detection and multidrug therapy;

1. **THANKS** the Regional Director for his report on this subject;
2. **ENDORSES** the Regional Strategy for the Elimination of Leprosy as a public health problem;¹
3. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the support provided by local and international nongovernmental organizations to national and regional leprosy elimination efforts;
4. **URGES** Member States where leprosy is endemic and particularly those where it is still a public health problem, to:
 - 4.1 continue their commitment towards elimination of leprosy as a public health problem by the year 2000;
 - 4.2 give priority to leprosy control measures in national health plans, with emphasis on early case-detection, treatment with multidrug therapy and disability prevention;
 - 4.3 coordinate activities with interested governmental bodies as well as international and nongovernmental organizations to achieve the goal of elimination of leprosy.
5. **URGES** those Member States that have reduced prevalence rates at the national level to strive to reach the elimination goal at subnational levels also, particularly in pockets of endemicity;
6. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to:
 - 6.1 continue to support capacity-building of national leprosy control programmes;
 - 6.2 inform the Regional Committee of progress achieved in attaining the elimination goal in the Region.

¹ Elimination of leprosy as a public health problem is defined as the reduction of prevalence to a level below 1 case per 10 000 population.