EM/RC44/R.9 ROLE OF ACADEMIA AND HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS IN SUPPORT OF HEALTH FOR ALL

The Regional Committee,

Having discussed the role of academic institutions and professional associations in support of health for all;

Expressing keenness that programmes of education for health professionals should respond adequately to the needs of their communities;

Recognizing the challenges faced by medical education;

Reaffirming the importance of increasing coordination between educational institutions for health professionals and health care delivery systems;

1. CALLS UPON Member States to:

- 1.1 Conduct an in-depth review of the current situation related to the role of academia and professional associations in support of health for all, analyse the major constraints encountered in this regard, and identify ways and means of overcoming these constraints, introducing new concepts into the curricula and responding more effectively to community health needs;
- 1.2 Establish or strengthen the mechanisms that would promote partnership between educational institutions for health personnel and health care delivery systems;
- 1.3 Review admissions policies of educational institutions for health personnel in order to ensure optimal standards of education and training;
- 1.4 Encourage medical schools and educational institutions for other health personnel to conduct thorough evaluation of their curricula and teaching/learning methodologies and their relevance to community health needs.

2. **INVITES** professional associations to:

- 2.1 Assume a more active role in national health development and contribute effectively to decision-making and action for health;
- 2.2 Consider ensuring good standards of practice, quality of health services and continuing education of health care professionals an integral part of their responsibilities to their members and the communities they serve;

3. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to:

- 3.1 Provide technical assistance to educational institutions and professional associations in fulfilment of the above;
- 3.2 Continue to keep the Regional Committee informed on progress made in strengthening the role of academia and professional associations in the achievement of health for all.
- 3.3 Establish a panel of experts to assist medical schools and educational institutions for other health personnel in evaluating their educational process.