

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the Annual Report of the Regional Director on the Work of WHO in the Eastern Mediterranean Region for the year 1998<sup>1</sup> and having noted his statement thereon;

1. **THANKS** the Regional Director for his comprehensive report, which highlights the close cooperation between the Regional Office and the Member States and reflects the significant achievements made through WHO collaborative efforts with Member States in the Region;
2. **ADOPTS** the Annual Report of the Regional Director;
3. **ACKNOWLEDGES** achievements made for the timely eradication of poliomyelitis and calls on all Member States to maintain and further their efforts in continuing to fully implement all the strategies for poliomyelitis eradication until it is eradicated;
4. **REAFFIRMS** the need to strengthen national expertise in the area of management effectiveness, supports the establishment of a regional centre and a regional network for training in quality management and urges the Regional Director to initiate the process of mobilizing resources for the implementation of this programme, in particular from extrabudgetary resources;
5. **EMPHASIZES** the importance of considering restructuring of ministries of health by Member States in order to be able to respond to the needs of, and manage ongoing health sector reform;
6. **EXPRESSES** concern about the deepening water crisis in the Region and supports regional efforts for water conservation and reuse and to ensure the quality of recycled water;
7. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the Regional Director's decision to increase the number of issues of the Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal and commends the efforts made to promote the Journal, both at regional and global levels.

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<sup>1</sup> Document EM/RC46/2