

**GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIES**

The Regional Committee,

Having discussed the paper on gender mainstreaming in development policies<sup>1</sup>;

Recognizing that the role of women in health and development is essential for sustainable development;

Acknowledging the need to give equal opportunities to women and men to participate in public health and environmental health programmes;

**CALLS UPON** Member States to:

1. Establish, support and strengthen as appropriate gender focal point(s) or gender units for health, with clear terms of reference;
2. Enhance the role of women in major community-based development initiatives such as the basic development needs and quality of life approach and healthy cities, healthy villages and healthy communities programmes;
3. Build and strengthen capacity and partnerships and foster linkages with national and international nongovernmental organizations and civil society institutions, in order to mainstream gender in national health and development planning processes.

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<sup>1</sup> Document EM/RC46/9