

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the technical paper on health systems development;<sup>2</sup>

Being aware of the importance of health systems development in achieving national goals aimed at improving health, securing fairness of financial contribution and responding to population needs;

Mindful of the interest in health systems and their development expressed by most Member States after the release of the World Health Report 2000: Health systems: improving performance;

1. **COMMENDS** the steps taken by the Regional Director in providing technical assistance to Member States in the field of health systems development;
2. **REQUESTS** Member States to:
  - 2.1 Strengthen national institutions by establishing and expanding the main health systems functions, paying particular interest to the development of health policy and strategic planning units within ministries of health and to strengthening health information and legislation support;
  - 2.2 Ensure appropriate and fair financing as being among the main functions of health systems, with the Ministry of Health playing an active role in designing and in monitoring health financing policies;
  - 2.3 Invest in health system development through capacity-building in analytical tools such as national health account analysis, cost-effectiveness analysis and cost analysis;
  - 2.4 Use the analytical tools to monitor and evaluate the functions and performance of health systems at national and subnational levels;
3. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to:
  - 3.1 Provide technical support for countries in their efforts to develop and strengthen health systems as part of its technical cooperation and normative functions;
  - 3.2 Develop a regional mechanism to assess health systems and organize a specialized training course on that mechanism;
  - 3.3 Establish a regional advisory committee on health systems development.

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<sup>2</sup> Document EM/RC48/Tech.Disc.1