

## مشروع قرار

### Draft resolution

**REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE  
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN**

**EM/RC69/R.5(D)  
October 2022**

**Sixty-ninth session  
Agenda item 3(d)**

### **Advancing the implementation of One Health in the Eastern Mediterranean Region**

The Regional Committee,

Having considered several WHO resolutions culminating in resolution WHA74.7 of the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly, which highlighted the urgent need to build on and strengthen existing cooperation among the Quadripartite to develop options for consideration by their respective governing bodies;

Having reviewed the technical paper on advancing the implementation of One Health in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, including the regional operational framework for One Health presented in Annex 1 of the paper,<sup>1</sup> and the reports on health threats at the human-animal-environment interface that affect populations in Member States, including the annual progress reports on the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) in the Region;<sup>2</sup>

Concerned that around 75% of emerging infectious diseases among humans are zoonotic in origin, and cognizant of the escalating public health risks posed by emerging and re-emerging zoonotic disease outbreaks and their pandemic potential, including the COVID-19 pandemic;

Noting the complex and challenging situation in the Eastern Mediterranean Region due to conflict, social unrest, political instability and economic constraints and the resultant health system disruption, human migration, forced displacement and transboundary animal movements that have implications for the emergence, control and management of zoonotic disease outbreaks including avian influenza, brucellosis, rabies, Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome, Rift Valley fever and Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever;

Acknowledging the challenges in controlling vector-borne and neglected tropical diseases and the influence of global warming and geoclimatic variations on host-vector-pathogen dynamics and their interaction with the potential geographic expansion and severity of zoonotic diseases;

Underlining that diseases caused by foodborne and waterborne pathogens continue to constitute a worldwide public health concern and that antibiotic-resistant microorganisms have been increasing in

<sup>1</sup> EM/RC69/7.

<sup>2</sup> EM/RC69/INF.DOC.7.

humans, animals, food and the environment, consequently making antimicrobial resistance a complex and escalating threat to health security, and that both these issues threaten the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

Bearing in mind that health threats at the human-animal-environment interface and their associated adverse effects can be minimized or even avoided if countries are properly prepared and able to early detect and efficiently respond to both human and animal diseases;

Understanding the urgent need to implement a multidisciplinary cross-sectoral One Health approach that aims to build a sustainable system and to balance and optimize the health of people, animals and the environment;

Underlining that preventing, preparing for, detecting, responding to and recovering from health emergencies is primarily the responsibility of governments, while acknowledging the key role of WHO within the Quadripartite in preparing for and coordinating a comprehensive response to health emergencies;

Recalling the commitments and obligations of Member States to continue to build core capacities as per the International Health Regulations (2005) and the need to implement the One Health approach, which will enable Member States to meet their obligations and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

**1. URGES Member States to:**

- 1.1 Boost efforts to institutionalize the One Health approach and ensure that a system is in place to govern, manage, coordinate and oversee all One Health activities;
- 1.2 Create a supportive and enabling environment for One Health including legislation, policy and budgetary allocation;
- 1.3 Establish new or strengthen existing mechanisms for multisectoral collaboration and coordination for One Health involving all relevant government sectors and nongovernmental stakeholders, including academic institutions and the private sector;
- 1.4 Use the One Health multisectoral coordination mechanism to adapt the regional One Health operational framework and allocate all needed resources to facilitate its implementation;
- 1.5 Ensure that the One Health approach is geared around prevention, preparedness and response for emerging zoonotic diseases, endemic zoonoses, vector-borne and neglected tropical diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and food and water safety hazards including prioritization of those threats/diseases, surveillance, workforce development, risk assessment, risk communication, outbreak investigation and response;
- 1.6 Define national-level high-priority One Health-related activities, based on globally and regionally identified One Health priority areas;
- 1.7 Establish capacity-building programmes to ensure the availability of skilled workforce at the national and subnational levels to perform collaborative and coordinated activities to prevent, detect, investigate and respond to endemic and emerging health threats at the human-animal-environment interface;
- 1.8 Implement the core set of strategic actions and interventions in the regional One Health operational framework for action, ensuring linkages to related strategies, frameworks and action plans such as national action plans for health security;

- 1.9 Monitor the progress and impact of One Health implementation at the national and subnational levels using a predetermined set of indicators;
- 1.10 Strengthen disease reporting and integrated data collection as well as timely information-sharing among relevant sectors, and encourage notification to and alignment with regional and global frameworks and existing priority disease programmes;

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

- 2.1 Establish a regional Quadripartite One Health Coordination Mechanism comprising high-level representation from the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean and regional offices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Organisation for Animal Health and the United Nations Environment Programme to oversee and manage One Health-related activities within the Region and facilitate the implementation of the global One Health joint plan of action (2022–2026) in liaison with WHO country offices, other WHO regional offices and WHO headquarters;
- 2.2 Support Member States of the Eastern Mediterranean Region to develop, implement, operationalize and evaluate a national One Health framework and plan, in line with the regional framework;
- 2.3 Enable countries to develop and implement community-centric and risk-based solutions for the control of emerging zoonotic diseases, endemic zoonoses, vector-borne and neglected tropical diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and food and water safety hazards using a One Health approach involving all relevant stakeholders;
- 2.4 Report annually on progress in implementing the Regional One Health operational framework to the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean.