



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Eastern Mediterranean



قــرار

Resolution

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

EM/RC70/R.1 October 2023

Seventieth session Agenda item 2(a)

Report on the implementation of *Vision 2023* for the Eastern Mediterranean Region for 2018–2023

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the report on the implementation of *Vision 2023* for the Eastern Mediterranean Region¹ and the progress reports requested by the Regional Committee;²

Welcoming the many examples of progress made across a wide variety of programme areas during the period 2018–2023, showing that successful action to improve health is possible in every country of the Region; but also

Noting with concern that the Region is not on track to achieve the health-related Sustainable Development Goals and that huge disparities in health and life chances persist within and between countries of the Region;

Further noting and encouraging efforts by Somalia to submit a resolution on maternal and child mortality to the upcoming Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly in 2024;

Gravely concerned about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the escalating scale of disasters, conflicts and other crises in the Region;

Emphasizing the importance of peace and solidarity to improve health and well-being throughout the Region, including the possibility of establishing a regional fund for humanitarian support;

Recognizing that while progress has been made in implementing the regional strategy and action plan for tobacco control 2019–2023, challenges remain, including the need to control and restrict the use of novel nicotine and tobacco products and combat tobacco industry interference and influence over tobacco control policies; and noting that in decision WHA72(11) (2019) the Seventy-second World Health Assembly decided to extend the term of WHO's global action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases from 2020 to 2030, and that the WHO NCD Accountability Framework for the NCD Implementation Roadmap was updated to align with this decision;

¹ EM/RC70/2.

² EM/RC70/INF.DOC.1–14.

Recognizing the serious public health burden in the Region from road traffic injuries, noting the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety (2021–2030), which calls for a comprehensive, whole-of-government and whole-of-society, Safe System approach to improving the safety of roads, and further noting that a strategic action framework to strengthen road safety systems in the Region has been developed through extensive consultation with Member States;

- 1. **THANKS** the Regional Director for his comprehensive report on the work of WHO in the Region over the last five years;
- 2. **ADOPTS** the report on the implementation of *Vision 2023* for the Eastern Mediterranean Region;
- 3. **URGES** Member States to accelerate efforts to achieve the health-related Sustainable Development Goals and realize the vision of health for all by all;
- 4. **URGES** Member States to support efforts to submit a resolution on maternal and child health to the World Health Assembly;
- 5. **ENDORSES** the proposed extension of the implementation period of the regional strategy and action plan for tobacco control 2019–2023 to 2030;
- 6. **ENDORSES** the regional strategic action framework to strengthen road safety systems;
- 7. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to:
 - 7.1 report on progress in implementing the regional strategy and action plan for tobacco control to the Regional Committee at its 73rd and 77th sessions;
 - 7.2 provide support to Member States to implement the regional strategic action framework to strengthen road safety systems; and
 - 7.3 report on progress in implementing the regional strategic action framework to strengthen road safety systems to the Regional Committee at its 75th, 77th, 79th and 81st sessions.