EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS

The Regional Committee,

Recognizing that the Western Pacific Region experiences a disproportionate share of emergencies and disasters, resulting in the tragic loss of life and serious health, social and economic consequences;

Reaffirming the necessity to protect the health, safety and welfare of people and to strengthen health systems to minimize the consequences of disasters, including the impact of climate change;

Acknowledging the role of the health sector in addressing the growing demands of health in humanitarian emergencies, as well as the discussions of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction and the post-2015 development agenda;

Recalling discussions on emergencies and disasters at the sixty-second session of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, which emphasized the importance of health sector preparedness and recovery from disasters;

Noting that Member States have taken steps towards minimizing mortality and morbidity through disaster preparedness and response;
Recognizing the necessity of sustained investment in disaster risk management for health to strengthen prevention, preparedness, response and recovery,

1. **ENDORSES** the *Western Pacific Regional Framework for Action for Disaster Risk Management for Health*;

2. **URGES** Member States:
   
   (1) to develop, update and implement country priority actions for disaster risk management for health, in line with the *Western Pacific Regional Framework for Action for Disaster Risk Management for Health*;

   (2) to work collaboratively across all sectors to strengthen country capacity and technical and financial investment to ensure implementation of the regional framework for action;

3. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director:
   
   (1) to provide technical support in implementing the regional framework for action;

   (2) to foster collaboration and partnership to support disaster risk management for health;

   (3) to report periodically to the Regional Committee on progress in implementing the *Western Pacific Regional Framework for Action for Disaster Risk Management for Health*.

Sixth meeting, 16 October 2014