

WPR/RC35.R4 HEALTH MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the report of the Sub-Committee on the General Programme of Work;¹

Stressing the crucial importance of the proper management of health manpower resources for the attainment of the goal of health for all by the year 2000;

Appreciating the need for a coordinating mechanism for the integrated development of health manpower and health services;

Recognizing the need to coordinate in addition the various steps within the health manpower development process, such as planning, production, deployment, utilization and continuing education;

Emphasizing the need to obtain a more positive response among policy makers, health administrators and trainers to innovative approaches to health manpower development;

1. URGES Member States:

(1) to set up and strengthen mechanisms for coordination, review and continuous monitoring to ensure comprehensive and harmonious health manpower development, covering such areas as policy formulation, planning, production and deployment;

(2) to prepare sufficient numbers of teachers in the health sciences and of health administrators in the application of methods of community and task-oriented education so as to enable them to review and reorient the basic training programmes and to formulate and implement schemes for continuing education;

(3) to encourage the health services and training institutions to design and implement research and development activities in the area of health manpower development;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(1) to study alternative ways and means of ensuring the comprehensive development of health manpower policies and plans with a view to achieving greater effectiveness and efficiency in the training and management of health personnel;

(2) to collaborate in the organization of national workshops aimed at developing and strengthening capabilities for progressively introducing changes at existing training institutions directed towards a community-oriented education;

(3) to encourage the introduction of innovative educational approaches, particularly community-oriented and problem-solving teaching, in selected existing and newly established schools of medical and nursing education, and to foster the exchange of information on the application of such approaches to health manpower development;

(4) to collaborate in designing and conducting research on subjects of special concern to Member States, including the monitoring of the health manpower development process.

Seventh meeting, 10 September 1984

¹Document WPR/RC35/6.