

The Regional Committee,

Noting with concern that oral health is deteriorating in developing countries despite the availability of effective preventive methods;

Recognizing the urgent need to strengthen the oral health services in general and their preventive aspects in particular;

1. URGES Member States:

(1) to monitor the implementation of their oral health programmes in the context of health for all by the year 2000, to modify them where necessary, and to evaluate their effectiveness;

(2) to develop their oral health services on the basis of epidemiological and demographic data, with the objective of achieving the targets of the oral health component of health for all by the year 2000;

(3) to introduce or intensify oral health preventive programmes, using fluoridation or other means;

(4) to use dental auxiliaries and other available manpower for the underserved communities at primary health care level;

(5) to ensure the optimal use of available technical and financial resources;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(1) to intensify cooperation, particularly in undertaking field activities aimed at prevention and in training dental auxiliaries;

(2) to cooperate in strengthening national managerial capability for the delivery of oral health care, in order to increase overall productivity and programme effectiveness.

Ninth meeting, 9 September 1983