

The Regional Committee,

Having considered resolutions WHA37.32 and WHA37.33 on the Action Programme on Essential Drugs and Vaccines and the rational use of drugs;

Recalling resolution WPR/RC32.R17 by which it noted the approaches that would form WHO's plan of action in implementing the Action Programme;

Commending the steps already taken to implement the Action Programme on Essential Drugs and Vaccines and to increase national capability in drug quality assurance, manpower development, and drug production and distribution;

1. URGES Member States to intensify their efforts in the strengthening of national capabilities in order to ensure the supply of essential drugs to their people;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(1) to cooperate with Member States in measures to introduce and implement drug policies in order to improve national capabilities in drug quality assurance, manpower development, national or regional drug production, the use of drugs, prescription practices, and the provision of complete and unbiased information about drugs to members of the health profession and the public;

(2) to foster the exchange of information among Member States on drugs, including quality assurance, drug registration, rational distribution systems to meet the health needs of Member States, and drug safety and efficacy;

(3) to convene, within available resources, a meeting of an ad hoc subcommittee of the Regional Committee, composed of representatives of selected Member States, to consider means of cooperation among Member States in this field; and to report to the Regional Committee at the thirty-sixth session on the current situation in regard to the Programme, including the outcome of the meeting;

(4) to endeavour to muster increased extrabudgetary resources for activities relating to the Action Programme on Essential Drugs and Vaccines in the Region.

Eighth meeting, 11 September 1984