

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the report of the Regional Director on urban primary health care;¹

Noting that urbanization is occurring at a fast pace which far exceeds the rate at which essential services can be provided;

Recognizing that uncontrolled urbanization leads to general deterioration of the health status, production of specific diseases through contamination of air, food, and water supply, and the emergence of serious social and behavioural problems;

Recognizing also that commendable efforts have already been made to develop primary health care in rural areas, but noting with concern that much remains to be done in the urban areas;

1. URGES Member States:

(1) to examine the status of their urban health systems and to intensify their efforts to reorient these optimally to the principles of primary health care;

(2) to adopt policies that will prevent or minimize the deleterious effects of rapid uncontrolled urbanization;

(3) to share information on their policy, research and experience in urban primary health care, such as collaborative activities between the public and private sectors;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(1) to continue his promotional efforts to bring to the attention of Member States the need to take action for the improvement of urban health;

(2) to support Member States in their programme of urban health development based on primary health care; and

(3) to promote technical cooperation among Member States in the field of urban primary health care.

¹ Document WPR/RC36/16.