

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the report on developments of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)¹ and the annual report on AIDS, including sexually transmitted diseases;²

Recognizing with concern the low level of funding earmarked to support national programmes in the Region by UNAIDS for 1996-1997;

Noting that Australia, China, France, Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America are currently members of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS;

Noting also that the Regional Office is working in coordination with UNAIDS through its work in strengthening national sexually transmitted disease programmes, HIV and AIDS surveillance, and providing education and support to special population groups;

¹ Document WPR/RC47/7.

² Document WPR/RC47/6.

1. URGES Member States:
 - (1) to continue to show strong political commitment to national STD/HIV/AIDS prevention efforts;
 - (2) to give continued active support to UNAIDS in achievement of its objectives;
 - (3) to be actively involved in extrabudgetary fund-raising efforts with partner agencies to permit a full and appropriate range of STD/HIV/AIDS programming;
 - (4) to participate actively in the proceedings of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (1) to strengthen activities in support of Member States' responses to sexually transmitted diseases, HIV infection and AIDS through maintenance of a strong technical capability within WHO to respond to related health issues;
 - (2) to ensure the collaboration of the Regional Office with UNAIDS specifically through active WHO participation in theme group activities at country level;
 - (3) to collaborate with Member States in the development of national policies that support efforts to prevent and control sexually transmitted diseases, HIV infection and AIDS;
 - (4) to collaborate in resource mobilization for STD/HIV/AIDS activities;
 - (5) to report in 1997 on further developments relating to UNAIDS.