



R E S O L U T I O N

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR
THE WESTERN PACIFIC

COMITE REGIONAL DU
PACIFIQUE OCCIDENTAL

WPR/RC43.R3
10 September 1992

ERADICATION OF POLIOMYELITIS IN THE REGION

The Regional Committee,

Recalling resolutions WPR/RC39.R15, WPR/RC41.R5 and WPR/RC42.R3, which call for the eradication of poliomyelitis in the Western Pacific Region by the year 1995;

Noting the progress made during the last year towards poliomyelitis eradication in the Region, which is reflected by the 56% reduction from the previous year in the number of poliomyelitis cases reported in 1991;¹

Appreciating the efforts of the countries in which cases still occur to strengthen their poliomyelitis eradication activities;

Recognizing, however, that more accurate and timely surveillance, with virological investigation and more extensive supplementary immunization activities, including national and sub-national campaign days and mopping-up operations, are needed to eradicate poliomyelitis;

Emphasizing the continuing critical need for additional vaccine supplies meeting WHO quality standards to carry out both routine and supplementary immunization activities, in order to ensure the timely attainment of poliomyelitis eradication;

.../

¹Document WPR/RC43/6.

1. **REAFFIRMS** that poliomyelitis eradication in the Western Pacific Region by 1995 is achievable provided that country programmes are maintained and enough oral poliovirus vaccine is made available;
2. **URGES** all Member States that are still reporting poliomyelitis cases:
 - (1) to increase and sustain their routine immunization coverage with all the vaccines used in the Expanded Programme on Immunization, particularly poliovirus vaccine;
 - (2) to conduct more extensive supplementary immunization activities in order to stop the transmission of wild poliovirus as rapidly as possible;
 - (3) to improve the timeliness and quality of surveillance, using monitoring indicators and laboratory support services; and
 - (4) to act as focal points in the mobilization of support for the procurement of oral poliovirus vaccine from the international community;
3. **URGES** also all Member States in which poliovirus transmission does not occur:
 - (1) to ensure that they have adequate plans for maintaining their poliomyelitis-free status;
 - (2) to strengthen their surveillance systems for the efficient detection and immediate investigation of all cases of suspected poliomyelitis;
 - (3) to make available whatever financial support they can for the provision of poliovirus vaccine, in particular oral vaccine, for supplementary immunization activities in countries that are still reporting poliomyelitis cases;

4. **THANKS** the many partners who have continued to collaborate in the Expanded Programme on Immunization and the poliomyelitis eradication initiative, contributing very significantly to the progress achieved so far;
5. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director:
 - (1) to continue to strengthen WHO's technical cooperation with Member States in order to improve the quality and timeliness of their surveillance systems and conduct supplementary immunization activities;
 - (2) to continue to make the utmost effort, in collaboration with all partners concerned, to mobilize further resources for vaccine supply;
 - (3) to bring the serious situation of vaccine shortage to the attention of the Executive Board at its ninety-first session in January 1993, in order to enlist its global support in resolving critical programme constraints.

Sixth Meeting, 10 September 1992
WPR/RC43/SR/6