

The Regional Committee,

Recalling resolutions WHA51.17 on antimicrobial resistance and WHA54.14 on global health security;

Concerned that prevalence of resistance to most common antimicrobials is growing at an alarming rate throughout the Region;

Recognizing that antimicrobial resistance poses a threat to global and national health security;

Noting that the emergence and spread of resistance are driven by numerous interconnected factors associated with misuse and overuse of antimicrobials in human and food-producing animals;

Recognizing that the Global Strategy for Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance provides a framework that can be used to develop regional and national strategies;

1. URGES Member States:

- (1) to develop and implement multisectoral strategies for containment of antimicrobial resistance, including strengthened national and local surveillance;
- (2) to adopt and enforce laws and regulations to ensure that antimicrobials be made available only on prescription;
- (3) to promote and ensure rational use of drugs, including antimicrobials, and to develop consumer education strategies;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (1) to develop a regional strategy for containment of antimicrobial resistance;

- (2) to provide further technical support to Member States for the development and implementation of national strategies for containment of antimicrobial resistance;
- (3) to monitor prevalence of antimicrobial resistance in the Region and to share such information with Member States.

Eighth meeting, 20 September 2002
WPR/RC53/SR/8