

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the information presented by the Regional Director on the current status of the antimalaria programme in the Western Pacific Region;¹

Noting with concern that in several countries or areas of the Region the programme has lost momentum during recent years and in some has even shown signs of deterioration;

1. URGES Member States to:

(1) continue, and where necessary strengthen, the support given to the antimalaria drive in order to improve the epidemiological situation, particularly among underprivileged groups in remote rural areas;

(2) assign priority, in the accelerated development of a genuinely effective integrated rural health infrastructure that reaches the periphery, to the more malarious regions and, towards this goal, solicit the cooperation of other agencies involved in rural development;

¹Document WPR/RC29/14.

(3) study alternative approaches to the control of malaria in areas where conventional measures have failed to produce the desired effect and promote other applied field research activities in an attempt to resolve immediate problems;

(4) give appropriate attention to the development of health manpower with adequate orientation in malaria;

2. APPEALS to those Member States of the Region in a position to do so to support the antimalaria programme; in particular:

(1) programmes in which, without such support, only a minimal degree of malaria control over extensive areas could be achieved;

(2) such specific undertakings as would greatly enhance national capabilities to achieve self-reliance in malaria control, including the production and/or formulation of antimalarial drugs and insecticides;

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director to continue:

(1) to explore sources for providing adequate training and orientation on malaria for staff of the general health services and the antimalaria services in particular;

(2) to cooperate with Member States in studying and developing alternative approaches to the control of malaria, together with other applied field research activities;

(3) to cooperate with Member States in strengthening malaria vigilance operations in countries in the maintenance phase;

(4) to report on the situation at the thirtieth session.