

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR Europe

Regional Committee for Europe 64th session

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Resolution

European Vaccine Action Plan 2015–2020

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the "European Vaccine Action Plan 2015–2020" (EVAP) (document EUR/RC64/15 Rev.1);

Acknowledging the contribution of this resolution to the Twelfth General Programme of Work 2014–2019 for categories 1 (Communicable diseases), 4 (Health systems) and 5 (Preparedness, surveillance and response);

Recognizing the significant contribution of EVAP to the policy priorities of *Health 2020: a European policy framework and strategy for the 21st century* and the commitment to reduce health inequalities and guarantee that the full benefits of immunization are available to all people; acknowledging alignment of EVAP with *The Tallinn Charter: Health Systems for Health and Wealth* endorsed by resolution EUR/RC58/R4, "Investing in children: the European child and adolescent health strategy 2015–2020" (document EUR/RC64/12), the "European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services" (resolution EUR/RC62/R5) and the Integrated Global Action Plan for Pneumonia and Diarrhoea;

Recognizing the *Global Vaccine Action Plan 2011–2020* endorsed by resolution WHA65.17, the Decade of Vaccines Collaboration (2011–2020), the importance of immunization as one of the most cost-effective interventions in public health and which should be recognized as a core component of the human right to health;

Recalling Member States' "Renewed commitment to elimination of measles and rubella and prevention of congenital rubella syndrome by 2015 and sustained support for polio-free status in the WHO European Region" (resolution EUR/RC60/R12);

Recognizing the contribution of successful immunization programmes in achieving global and regional health goals, in particular for reducing childhood mortality and morbidity, and their potential for reducing mortality and morbidity throughout the life-course;

Concerned that outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases persist and that gaps exist in routine vaccination coverage at national and subnational levels in the Region;

Acknowledging that political commitment and accelerated action are required for universal, equitable access to sustainable, high-quality immunization programmes to meet the needs of the general population with special focus on marginalized and underserved populations and to respond to vaccine hesitancy;

Understanding that this resolution does not replace any existing Regional Committee resolution and that the expected lifespan of the resolution is 2015–2020;

1. ADOPTS the "European Vaccine Action Plan 2015–2020" and its strategic objectives, goals and targets, as set out in its monitoring and evaluation framework;

- 2. URGES Member States:¹
 - (a) to commit to immunization as a priority, to ensure sustained political commitment to achieving the goals outlined in the EVAP and to allocate adequate financial resources to achieve national immunization programme objectives;
 - (b) to integrate immunization services into national health systems and public health policies and strategies in order to meet vaccination coverage targets at all administrative levels throughout the Region;
 - (c) to align, as appropriate, national health policies and strategies and national immunization plans with the EVAP, applying the vision and the strategies appropriately, according to the epidemiological situation;
 - (d) to strengthen national immunization programme capacity to formulate and implement evidence-based policies, to provide refresher training on immunization

¹ And regional economic integration organizations, where applicable

for health-care providers and to scale-up national capacity to implement innovative immunization delivery with use of communication technology and methods;

- (e) to provide information on the risks of vaccine-preventable diseases and the risks and benefits of vaccination in order to build trust in vaccines, immunization services and the health authorities;
- (f) to report, within already existing reporting requirements and systems, on indicators and meet the reporting deadlines outlined in EVAP's monitoring and evaluation framework;
- 3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to support the implementation of EVAP in the Region by providing strategic direction to Member States and to create strategic partnerships to deliver technical support;
 - (b) to advocate for commitment and resources to strengthen immunization programmes in Member States and with relevant partners in order to attain the goals outlined in the EVAP;
 - (c) to provide guidance on how to reach specific high-risk groups, including marginalized and underserved populations and vaccine-hesitant groups;
 - (d) to monitor and evaluate progress towards achieving EVAP goals and targets and thereby contribute to the monitoring and evaluation of global indicators and targets for the *Global Vaccine Action Plan 2011–2020*;
 - (e) to ensure the necessary resources for its implementation in two consecutive programme budgets and to report funding gaps through the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee;
 - (f) to report to the Regional Committee on the implementation of EVAP at its 67th and 71st sessions in 2017 and 2021, respectively.

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