



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
COPENHAGEN

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE
Fifty-first session, Madrid, 10 – 13 September 2001

RESOLUTION

EUR/RC51/R6
12 September 2001
10657M
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

POVERTY AND HEALTH – EVIDENCE AND ACTION BY WHO'S EUROPEAN REGION

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the contents and recommendations of document EUR/RC51/8 (*Poverty and health – Evidence and action in WHO's European Region*);

Recognizing the overwhelming evidence of the close relations between poverty, both absolute and relative, and ill health;

Being aware of the responsibility of the health sector to contribute to the reduction of poverty, as part of comprehensive multisectoral efforts;

1. THANKS the Regional Director for proposing that the subject of poverty and health should be included on the agenda of the present session;
2. EMPHASIZES that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being;
3. ACKNOWLEDGES that the issue of poverty and health is a central concern both of WHO and of its Member States, which are all affected, although to different degrees;

4. URGES Member States to accelerate the formulation and further development of actions to combat poverty;

5. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(a) to establish a process to develop, analyse and disseminate knowledge on the causes of poverty and on effective actions to decrease the effect of poverty on health status;

(b) to mobilize resources in order to carry out activities on poverty and health within a coherent regional framework;

(c) to put this item on the agenda of the fifty-second session of the Regional Committee.