

Regional Committee for Europe Fifty-second session

Copenhagen, 16-19 September 2002

EUR/RC52/R3 16 September 2002 23537

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FAO/WHO PAN-EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY, 25–28 FEBRUARY 2002

The Regional Committee,

Concerned that food-related ill health represents a serious threat to public health in the European Region;

Recalling its resolution EUR/RC50/R8, by which it endorsed the Food and Nutrition Policy and Action Plan for the European Region, and requested the Regional Director to cooperate with and support Member States and other organizations in comprehensive efforts to promote public health through appropriate food and nutrition policies;

Further recalling World Health Assembly resolution WHA53.15, which urged Member States to integrate food safety as one of their essential public health functions and requested the Director-General to give greater emphasis to food safety, in collaboration and coordination with other international organizations, notably the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);

Having considered the report of the FAO/WHO Pan-European Conference on Food Safety and Quality, held in Budapest from 25 to 28 February 2002;

Aware that the 23rd FAO Regional Conference for Europe, held in Nicosia from 29 to 31 May 2002, endorsed the conclusions of the FAO/WHO Pan-European Conference and requested that its recommendations be forwarded to member countries, the European Union, and other international organizations for follow-up;

Recognizing that development of a food safety strategy within the framework of the Food and Nutrition Policy and Action Plan for the European Region is in line with many of the recommendations from the FAO/WHO Pan-European Conference, and that these recommendations will strengthen and complement current efforts to integrate the food safety strategy in the Food and Nutrition Policy and Action Plan;

1. URGES Member States:

- (a) to endorse the recommendations of the FAO/WHO Pan-European Conference on Food Safety and Quality related to public health in the context of development of the Food and Nutrition Policy and Action Plan in Europe;
- (b) to ensure appropriate support to follow up the recommendations of the FAO/WHO Pan-European Conference related to public health within the framework of development of a food safety strategy for implementation of the Food and Nutrition Policy and Action Plan in Europe;
- 2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to facilitate cooperation among Member States, WHO, FAO, the European Commission and other organizations in order to promote public health by improving food safety and nutritional quality through the development of enhanced food safety and nutrition policies and action plans in the European Region.