



**World Health
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Europe**

Regional Committee for Europe
Sixty-second session

EUR/RC62/R6

Malta, 10–13 September 2012

13 September 2012

122090

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Resolution

Strategy and action plan on healthy ageing in Europe, 2012–2020

The Regional Committee,

Recalling resolutions WHA52.7 and WHA58.16 on active and healthy ageing, which called upon Member States to take measures that ensure the highest attainable standard of health and well-being for the rapidly growing numbers of older persons;

Recalling further United Nations General Assembly resolution 57/167, which endorsed the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, as well as other relevant United Nations resolutions on ageing;

Noting that population ageing has started to accelerate in the WHO European Region, with the labour force becoming rapidly older in many countries and the oldest age groups growing fastest;

Recognizing the need for a new paradigm of positive ageing and the new opportunities brought about by innovation;

Having considered resolution WHA65.3 on “Strengthening noncommunicable disease policies to promote active ageing”;

Having reviewed and recognizing that the strategy and action plan on healthy ageing in Europe 2012–2020¹ will be in line with and coordinated with Health 2020, the new European policy framework for health and well-being policy and with the European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services;

1. URGES Member States:²

- (a) to strengthen national policies, programmes and capacity of health systems to promote active and healthy ageing over the life-course, including intergenerational approaches;
- (b) to identify and address barriers to and gaps in access to health and social care for older persons, addressing the challenges of the growing incidence of multiple chronic conditions and of neurodegenerative diseases more intensely;
- (c) to promote and support intersectoral policies at various levels of government, with the goal of promoting age-friendly environments;
- (d) to use the strategy and action plan as a basis for strengthening international cooperation on healthy ageing;

2. CALLS ON international, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations, as well as self-help and other relevant organizations, to support the strategy and action plan and where appropriate to work jointly with Member States and with the WHO Regional Office for Europe to strengthen national policies and plans to respond to the challenges posed by population ageing;

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to support Member States in developing age-friendly policies at various levels of government, such as with a sustainable mechanism to promote these policies at city/community level under the Healthy Cities network in Europe;
- (b) to provide support to and cooperate with Member States in the comparative reporting of trends of ageing populations that are relevant to the priority interventions described in the strategy and action plan, in particular with age profiles at community/city level;
- (c) to facilitate communication using existing infrastructure between WHO collaborating centres, governmental and nongovernmental organizations and

¹ Document EUR/RC62/10 Rev.1

² And where applicable, regional economic integration organizations

regional actors, as well as other stakeholders, in support of the priority actions outlined in the strategy and action plan;

- (d) to deliver an interim progress report to the Regional Committee at its sixty-sixth session in 2016, and to report back to the Regional Committee at its session in 2020 on the implementation of the strategy and action plan.