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Review of process of reporting back to the Regional Committee on resolutions adopted at previous sessions

A review of resolutions adopted by the Regional Committee in recent years shows that a number of resolutions have an open-ended requirement for reporting back to the Regional Committee. This has repercussions for the agenda and programme of Regional Committee sessions.

The attached proposal has been developed to streamline and clarify reporting requirements.

Review of process of reporting back to the Regional Committee on resolutions adopted at previous sessions

ALCOHOL			
RC55/R1	Framework for alcohol policy	in the WHO European	n Region
Adopted: 2005	Reporting requirement: Every third year	First reporting: 2008	End date: Open ended

Operative paragraph:

REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to mobilize resources in order to ensure adequate health promotion, disease prevention, disease management research, evaluation and surveillance activities in the Region in line with the aims of the Framework;
- (b) to cooperate with and assist Member States and organizations in their efforts to prevent or reduce the harm resulting from alcohol consumption and thereby the level of alcohol-related problems in the Region;
- (c) to mobilize other international organizations in order to pursue the aims of the Framework for alcohol policy in the Region;
- (d) to continue, revise and update the European Alcohol Information System to reflect the new Framework for alcohol policy in the Region and to include a legal database in the system;
- (e) to organize the production and publication of a review of the status of and progress achieved in addressing alcohol-related problems and policies in the Region, to be presented to the Regional Committee **every third year**.

Proposal: To include a report on progress achieved in addressing alcohol-related problems and policies in the Region under the Regional Committee agenda item on noncommunicable diseases in 2008, 2011 and 2014.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

RC54/R3	Environment and health		
Adopted: 2004	Reporting requirement: Annually	First reporting: 2005	End date: Open ended

Operative paragraph:

INVITES the new committee to continue to facilitate and promote the actions set out in the Budapest Declaration, drawing particular attention to the need to:

- (a) ensure the exchange and dissemination of information and coordination of the actions required to implement the Budapest Declaration and the CEHAPE among countries, international organizations and civil society;
- (b) work with all relevant stakeholders, and particularly countries of the European Region, to ensure reporting back on implementation of the actions decided by the Fourth Ministerial Conference in Budapest;
- (c) further develop the Environment and Health process in Europe by facilitating and promoting

partnerships with stakeholders in all relevant sectors and ensuring cooperation and coordination with associated organizations such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and related processes, as well as by working closely with the European Union (EU) to ensure full coordination between actions foreseen in the EU Environment and Health Strategy and the commitments made by Member States in Budapest;

- (d) **report annually to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe** on achievements and areas needing greater efforts, as well as on the EEHC's activities, work plan and financial requirements;
- (e) organize, together with the secretariat at the WHO Regional Office for Europe, the first intergovernmental preparatory meeting by the end of 2007, as a mid-term review;
- (f) provide all Member States, through the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy, by 2007, with a detailed proposal for the agenda of the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health to be held in Italy in 2009;

REQUESTS the Regional Director to continue to support implementation of the decisions taken at previous conferences, and in particular the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the Charter on Transport, Environment and Health, as developed in the joint WHO-UNECE Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme;

REQUESTS the Regional Director to continue to provide leadership to the Environment and Health process in the European Region by further promoting the Regional Office's and country offices' activities in the following areas, with special attention to vulnerable population groups such as children:

- supporting effective implementation of the decisions taken in Budapest and the requests of Member States for actions in specific areas detailed therein;
- continuing to address the links between health and the environment and to assess health impacts;
- monitoring trends, conducting research and developing scenarios on exposures, health effects and policy responses and requirements;
- developing evidence-based norms, guidelines and risk assessment tools for application at all relevant levels, with special reference to assessment of the burden of environment-related diseases on health systems;
- identifying appropriate risk management techniques, including those addressing risk communication and perception, through the collection, analysis and interpretation of case studies as well as the identification of best practices;
- supporting further work on health decision-making under scientific uncertainty and the application of the precautionary principle;
- supporting capacity-building at technical and policy levels to facilitate Member States' actions and
 responses, such as the initiative taken by the Commonwealth of Independent States and a number
 of countries of south-eastern Europe on reforming and building up the capacity of
 sanitary/epidemiological surveillance services and strengthening public health systems;
- supporting capacity-building at technical and policy levels to facilitate Member States' actions in establishing practical and institutional mechanisms for effective implementation that meets the legislative requirements for health impact assessments in the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary context;
- advocating the inclusion of environment and health considerations in the policies and actions of other sectors;
- promoting effective emergency preparedness and response capacity on emerging and re-emerging environmental health threats such as those related to extreme weather events.

Proposal: To report to the Regional Committee on environment and health issues annually until the fifth Ministerial Conference in 2009, and then every five years until 2019.

GEOGRAPHICALLY DISPERSED OFFICES			
RC54/R6	Strategy of the WHO Regional Office for Europe with regard to geographically dispersed offices		
Adopted: 2004	Reporting requirement: Regularly	Reporting:	End date: Open ended

Operative paragraph:

REQUESTS the Regional Director to:

- (a) take action, as appropriate, on the directions and conclusions contained therein, in particular to ensure that the GDOs are fully integrated units of the WHO Regional Office for Europe;
- (b) to consult with the Regional Committee when planning to establish a new GDO or to close an existing one; and
- (c) **as part of his report to the Regional Committee, to report regularly** on the work of the geographically dispersed offices.

Proposal: To include a report on the work of the GDOs as part of the Regional Director's report to the Regional Committee every five years from 2009 to 2019, and on the opening of any new GDO.

HEALTH FOR ALL POLICY				
RC55/R4	The Health for All policy framework for the WHO European Region: 2005 update			
Adopted: 2005	Reporting requirement: Progress report in 2008 – for decision on further action	First reporting: 2006	End date: for review in 2008	

Operative paragraph:

REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to support Member States in using the HFA policy framework when updating their own national health development policies;
- (b) to ensure dissemination of the update of the regional HFA policy framework among other international organizations;
- (c) to lead the open-ended regional HFA process by collecting and sharing with countries case studies and other national experiences;
- (d) to submit to the Regional Committee **in 2006** a follow-up paper on indicators coordinated and where possible reported jointly with WHO/HQ, OECD and EUROSTAT that may be used for monitoring the implementation of the regional HFA policy framework in countries;
- (e) to evaluate the impact of the update in Member States and to present a **progress report to the Regional Committee in 2008 for its decision on further action**.

Proposal: To include a progress report on the impact of the Health for All policy framework update as part of the Regional Director's report to the Regional Committee in 2008, 2012 and 2017.

HIV/AIDS			
RC52/R9	Scaling up the response to	HIV/AIDS in the WHO	European Region
Adopted: 2002	Reporting requirement: Annually	First reporting: 2003	End date: Open ended

Operative paragraph:

REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) taking due account of the role of UNAIDS, to regard the prevention and treatment of STI/HIV/AIDS as one of the highest priorities on the health agenda of the Regional Office and to ensure that the Regional Office has the necessary resources to provide appropriate expertise and assistance to Member States;
- (b) to continue cooperating actively with the UNAIDS Secretariat, co-sponsors and other interested parties, in order to provide appropriate technical support to Member States for improved prevention of HIV transmission and a public health approach to safe and effective use of drugs for prophylactic and therapeutic purposes;
- (c) to continue collaborating with Member States on promoting the inclusion of integrated approaches to STI/HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment in their health systems;
- (d) to assist Member States in drawing up and implementing national projects on blood safety, with the aim of attracting donor resources;
- (e) as part of strengthening country work within the framework of the Country Focus Initiative, to provide technical support to Member States in need, so that they can develop plans for accessing the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;
- (f) **to report annually** to the Regional Committee on the progress made in responding to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the European Region.

Proposal: To report to the Regional Committee on the progress made in responding to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Region annually until 2008, and then again in 2013 and 2018.

MALARIA			
RC52/R10	Scaling up the response to	malaria in the WHO E	uropean Region
Adopted: 2002	Reporting requirement: Periodically	First reporting: 2004	End date: Open ended

Operative paragraph:

REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to ensure that the control and prevention of malaria remain a high priority on the European health agenda, as well as to promote appropriate strategies and provide technical guidance for Roll Back Malaria efforts;
- (b) to support the identification of additional resources for the WHO Regional Office for Europe, in order to support Member States in achieving the regional Roll Back Malaria targets;
- (c) to promote partnership with the donor community at regional and country level, in order to facilitate implementation of the required actions;
- (d) as part of strengthening country work within the framework of the Country Focus Initiative, to provide technical support to Member States in need, so that they can develop plans for accessing the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

- (e) to strengthen surveillance and vector control;
- (f) to increase and facilitate intercountry cooperation on malaria control in the Region;
- (g) **to report periodically** to the Regional Committee on the progress achieved, with particular emphasis on the contribution that the partnership makes to reducing the burden of malaria and preventing its resurgence or reintroduction.

Proposal: To include a progress report on the response to malaria in the Region as part of the Regional Director's report to the Regional Committee in 2009 and 2014.

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

RC57/R2	The Millenium Development Goals in the WHO European Region: Health systems and health of mothers and children – lessons learned		
Adopted: 2007	Reporting requirement: Every 2 years	First reporting: 2009	End date: Open ended

Operative paragraph:

REQUESTS the Regional Director to continue to ensure that the MDGs are well integrated in the work of the Regional Office and pursued according to the measures outlined in the European strategy by:

- (a) promoting political commitment in Member States;
- (b) advocating and promoting actions at international level in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, including the European Commission, the World Bank, the Council of Europe, United Nations organizations and nongovernmental organizations;
- (c) providing Member States with technical support and assistance in capacity-building;
- (d) stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of knowledge and experience, as well as of novel policy approaches, among countries;
- (e) strengthening the information system in the Regional Office to monitor the situation of the MDGs and associated health trends;

REQUESTS the Regional Director to report to the Regional Committee **every two years** on the progress made towards the MDGs.

Proposal: To report to the Regional Committee on progress made towards the MDGs every two years until 2015, in 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015.

MENTAL HEALTH

RC55/R2	WHO European Ministerial Conference on Mental Health		
Adopted: 2005	Reporting requirement: Regularly	First reporting: 2006	End date: Open ended

Operative paragraph:

REQUESTS the Regional Director to take the necessary steps to ensure that mental health policy development and implementation are fully supported in the Regional Office and that adequate priority and resources are given to activities and programmes to fulfil the requirements of the Declaration and the Action Plan through action in the areas of:

(a) partnership, by encouraging cooperation with intergovernmental organizations, including the

European Commission and the Council of Europe, and nongovernmental organizations;

- (b) health information, by supporting Member States in the development of mental health surveillance and the production of comparative data on progress, emphasizing mental health gains and mental health impact assessment;
- (c) research, by establishing a network of mental health collaborating centres that offer opportunities for international partnerships, good quality research and the exchange of researchers;
- (d) policy and service development, by providing governments with expertise to underpin mental health reform through effective mental health policies that include service design and legislation and the setting up of a network of national counterparts and experts;
- (e) advocacy, by informing and monitoring policies and activities that will promote the human rights and inclusion of people with mental health problems, reduce stigma and discrimination against them and empower users, carers and nongovernmental organizations;

SUPPORTS the Regional Office's Mental Health in Europe Implementation Plan 2005–2010 that provides a framework for WHO efforts and activities towards achieving the aims of the Mental Health Declaration and Action Plan and identifies the resources required to deliver them, as mandated by Member States at the Ministerial Conference in Helsinki;

REQUESTS the Regional Director to report regularly to the Regional Committee on progress made.

Proposal: To include a report on progress achieved in the area of mental health as part of the Regional Director's report to the Regional Committee in 2011 and 2016.

NUTRITION			
RC57/R4	Follow-up to the WHO Eur Counteracting Obesity and and Nutrition Policy	_	
Adopted: 2007	Reporting requirement: Every 3 years	First reporting: 2010	End date: Open ended

Operative paragraph:

REQUESTS the Regional Director to take the necessary steps to ensure that food and nutrition policy development as well as physical activity, is well integrated in the work of the Regional Office, notably on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, and implemented according to the measures outlined in the Second European Action Plan for Food and Nutrition Policy by:

- (a) raising awareness and promoting political commitment in the Member States;
- (b) advocating and promoting actions at international level in collaboration with the European Commission, the Council of Europe, United Nations bodies and nongovernmental organizations and in open dialogue with all relevant stakeholders;
- (c) providing technical support to food and nutrition policy analysis and development in the Member States, building capacity and developing relevant policy tools;
- (d) stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of knowledge and experience among countries:
- (e) stimulating the development of novel policy approaches;
- (f) making use of existing databases and, if needed, developing a European information system to monitor the public health nutrition situation and assess associated health trends, in connection with the comprehensive mechanism for monitoring noncommunicable disease morbidity;

REQUESTS the Regional Director to report to the Regional Committee on the progress made in

implementing the Second European Action Plan for Food and Nutrition Policy, **aligned with the triennial reports** envisaged by the European Charter on Counteracting Obesity.

Proposal: To include a report on progress made in implementing the Second European Action Plan for Food and Nutrition Policy as part of the Regional Director's report to the Regional Committee in 2010 and 2013.