

Regional Committee for Europe
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Resolution

Investing in children: the European child and adolescent health strategy 2015–2020 and the European child maltreatment prevention action plan 2015–2020

The Regional Committee,

Having considered “Investing in children: the European child and adolescent health strategy 2015–2020” (document EUR/RC64/12) and “Investing in children: the European child maltreatment prevention action plan 2015–2020” (document EUR/RC64/13);

Acknowledging the contribution of this resolution to the Twelfth General Programme of Work 2014–2019 and categories 1 (Communicable diseases), 2 (Noncommunicable diseases) and 3 (Promoting health throughout the life-course);

Building on the “European strategy for child and adolescent health and development” (resolution EUR/RC55/R6) and the “Prevention of injuries in the WHO European Region” (resolution EUR/RC55/R9);

Recalling resolutions WHA56.24 on “Implementing the recommendations of the *World report on violence and health*”,¹ WHA64.27 on “Child injury prevention”, WHA65.6 on “Comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition” and WHA67.15 on “Strengthening the role of the health system in addressing violence, in particular

¹ The report defines child maltreatment as “all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child’s health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power” (Chapter 3, p. 59).

against women and girls, and against children”; and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;

Recognizing that both the European child and adolescent health strategy 2015–2020 and the European child maltreatment prevention action plan 2015–2020 propose approaches that are interdependent and integrated with “Health 2020: the European policy framework for health and well-being” (resolution EUR/RC62/R4);

Recollecting synergies with other WHO strategies and policies such as the “Action Plan for implementation of the European Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2012–2016” (resolution EUR/RC61/R3), the “European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services” (resolution EUR/RC62/R5), “The European Mental Health Action Plan” (resolution EUR/RC63/R10), and the “European Vaccine Action Plan 2015–2020” (resolution EUR/RC64/R5);

Understanding that this resolution supersedes resolution EUR/RC55/R6 on the “European strategy for child and adolescent health and development” and resolution EUR/RC55/R9 on “Prevention of injuries in the WHO European Region” and has an expected life-span of 2015–2020;

Recognizing that work on other types of injury covered in resolution EUR/RC55/R9 will continue in Europe within the mandates of resolutions WHA56.24 on “Implementing the recommendations of the *World report on violence and health*”, WHA57.10 on “Road safety and health” and WHA64.27 on “Child injury prevention”;

1. ADOPTS “Investing in children: the European child and adolescent health strategy 2015–2020” and “Investing in children: the European child maltreatment prevention action plan 2015–2020”;
2. URGES Member States:²
 - (a) to improve the health and well-being of infants, children and adolescents and reduce the burden of infant, child and adolescent ill health, including that due to maltreatment and other adverse events in childhood, ensuring actions for health promotion, health protection and disease prevention and studies on the

² And regional economic integration organizations, where applicable

determinants of child health and well-being, combining universal and targeted measures, with a special focus on vulnerable groups;

- (b) to respect the rights of children, promote their social inclusion, offer equitable opportunities for attaining the highest quality of life and invest in interventions that support early childhood development, growth during adolescence and nurturing family and institutional settings;
- (c) to strengthen health systems and preventive services to allow access to a continuum of high-quality care, from the antenatal period through infancy, childhood and adolescence, to ensure better health and social outcomes;
- (d) to ensure that relevant monitoring systems are in place with regard to existing international reporting requirements in the field of child maltreatment;

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to support Member States in the implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan;
- (b) to promote partnerships with all relevant stakeholders in the promotion of child health and the prevention of child maltreatment, especially in collaboration with the United Nations agencies in Europe;
- (c) to advocate for commitment and resources to strengthen efforts to improve the health and well-being of infants, children and adolescents and to prevent maltreatment;
- (d) to include the necessary resources for the implementation of the resolution in future programme budgets and report through the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee on funding gaps;
- (e) to report back to the Regional Committee at its 68th and 71st sessions in 2018 and 2021, respectively, on implementation of the European child and adolescent health strategy 2015–2020 and the European child maltreatment prevention action plan 2015–2020.

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