The Tashkent Declaration

“The Move from Malaria Control to Elimination” in the WHO European Region

A Commitment to Action

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We, the Ministers of Health,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions WHA52.11 and WHA58.2 that identified Roll Back Malaria as a priority project for WHO and called for further support to malaria control, in order to achieve the internationally agreed targets and goals;

Reaffirming our previous commitments to malaria made through the regional resolution, EUR/RC52/R10, “Scaling up the response to malaria in the European Region of WHO” from September 2002;

Appreciating the momentum offered by the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) partnership movement to curb large-scale epidemics of malaria in Central Asia, the Trans-Caucasian region and Turkey in the mid-1990s;

Welcoming the substantial progress made with rolling back malaria in affected countries, particularly those where the incidence of malaria has been brought down to such levels that interruption of transmission may become a feasible objective;

Proving the demonstrated feasibility of malaria elimination in the WHO European Region in the recent past and the successful elimination of malaria in several Member States of the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region at present;

Being mindful of the efficacious tools available to control and eliminate malaria in the regional context at present;

Emphasizing that a unique opportunity now exists to move further from malaria control to elimination;

Acknowledging that resources devoted to undertaking the new effort shall commensurate with the scope of the work to be done at national level;

Recognizing that the elimination of malaria requires additional efforts and an increase in resources;

1. Remain fully committed to the regional RBM movement, which has helped Member States to pursue successful partnership actions resulting in containment of malaria epidemics and burden reduction;

2. Recognize the need to consolidate the results achieved and to move further from malaria control to elimination at national level;

3. Commit ourselves to make all possible efforts required to achieve a greater impact on malaria situations in Member States;

4. Call upon the WHO Regional Office for Europe to assist countries in need of advocating, promoting and facilitating national efforts, in order to move from malaria control to elimination;

5. Call upon all Member States to support the WHO Regional Office for Europe in its efforts towards promoting the new regional initiative with the goal of eliminating malaria in the Region by 2015;

6. Pledge to develop, in collaboration with WHO, technically sound national malaria elimination strategies;

7. Underline the need to ensure that malaria-affected countries in the European Region are fully supported by organizations of the United Nations system, bilateral development agencies, development banks, nongovernmental organizations and the private sector in their endeavours to move forward with national malaria control and elimination campaigns;

8. Urge RBM partners to increase the level of financial assistance, in order to contribute to the attainment of the agreed objectives and goals;

9. Stress the need to strengthen cross-border collaboration for solving malaria-related problems. In the context of malaria elimination, particular emphasis should be given to situations, where there is a risk of spread of malaria between countries;

10. Note the importance of monitoring progress made with malaria control and elimination campaigns in accordance with WHO recommendations;

11. Request the 56th Regional Committee of the WHO European Region to take up the Tashkent Declaration, to follow up periodically on the implementation of this Declaration and to report on the progress achieved;

12. Call upon the WHO Regional Office for Europe to promote inter-regional collaboration and coordination with the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region on issues related to malaria elimination.

THE TASHKENT DECLARATION − A COMMITMENT TO ACTION