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A review of the status of resolutions adopted by the Regional Committee during the past ten years (2003–2012), and recommendations for sunseting and reporting requirements

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A review of the status of resolutions adopted by the Regional Committee during the past ten years (2003–2012), and recommendations for sunseting and reporting requirements

As part of the evidence in support of the new European health policy framework, Health 2020, the Secretariat made a study of resolutions adopted by the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and presented it to the Committee at its sixty-second session (RC62) in 2012. The Regional Committee welcomed the study and asked the Secretariat to review all the resolutions currently in force and to submit a document to RC63 identifying resolutions that are no longer relevant and presenting proposals for reporting schedules and sunseting the resolutions, where appropriate.

In carrying out this work, the Secretariat also took into consideration the document EUR/RC58/11 presented to and endorsed by RC58 in 2008, which contained specific proposals aimed at streamlining and clarifying reporting requirements.

The Secretariat proposes that RC63 should follow a similar line of action as RC58 for reporting on past resolutions, that is, to establish the practice of time-limited reporting and discontinue open-ended reporting. The Secretariat also proposed to sunset the resolutions that have been superseded in their entirety by subsequent resolutions that amend, cancel or render them moot.

This document reviews, in their entirety, all resolutions adopted by the Regional Committee over the past 10 years (2003–2012) and presents a set of proposals for sunseting and reporting requirements.

Accordingly, this paper takes into account the proposals contained in document EUR/RC58/11 that were endorsed by the Regional Committee in 2008, and suggests modifications to them, in the light of subsequent resolutions, as “new proposals”.

The Resolution proposed to be adopted by the Regional Committee is developed to endorse the proposals in the document to clarify the “sunseting” procedure and to streamline the reporting requirements.

Contents

	page
Introduction	1
Review of resolutions adopted by the Regional Committee in the years 2003–2012, and proposals for sunseting and reporting requirements	2
Category 1: Communicable diseases.....	2
HIV/AIDS	2
EUR/RC52/R9.....	2
Malaria	3
EUR/RC52/R10.....	3
Measles/rubella elimination.....	3
EUR/RC55/R7.....	3
Measles, rubella and polio	4
EUR/RC60/R12.....	4
Multidrug- and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis.....	5
EUR/RC61/R7.....	5
HIV/AIDS	6
EUR/RC61/R8.....	6
Category 2: Noncommunicable diseases.....	6
Mental health	6
EUR/RC53/R4.....	6
Noncommunicable diseases	7
EUR/RC54/R4.....	7
Alcohol policy.....	8
EUR/RC55/R1.....	8
Mental health	9
EUR/RC55/R2.....	9
Injuries	10
EUR/RC55/R9.....	10
Noncommunicable diseases	11
EUR/RC56/R2.....	11
Nutrition.....	12
EUR/RC57/R4.....	12
Noncommunicable diseases	13
EUR/RC61/R3.....	13
Alcohol.....	13
EUR/RC61/R4.....	13
Children with disabilities	14
EUR/RC61/R5.....	14
Category 3: Promoting health through the life-course	15
Child and adolescent health	15
EUR/RC53/R7.....	15
Environment.....	16
EUR/RC54/R3.....	16
Child and adolescent health	17
EUR/RC55/R6.....	17
Millennium Development Goals.....	18
EUR/RC57/R2.....	18
Environment and health	19
EUR/RC60/R7.....	19
Healthy aging	20
EUR/RC62/R6.....	20

Category 4: Health systems.....	20
Health systems strengthening	20
EUR/RC55/R8.....	20
Workforce policies.....	21
EUR/RC57/R1.....	21
Stewardship/governance	22
EUR/RC58/R4.....	22
Behaviour change.....	23
EUR/RC58/R8.....	23
Economic crisis.....	24
EUR/RC59/R3.....	24
Health workforce	25
EUR/RC59/R4.....	25
Public health policy.....	26
EUR/RC60/R5.....	26
Public health capacity	27
EUR/RC61/R2.....	27
Public health capacity	27
EUR/RC62/R5.....	27
Category 5: Preparedness, surveillance and response	28
International Health Regulations (2005).....	28
EUR/RC59/R5.....	28
Antibiotic resistance.....	29
EUR/RC61/R6.....	29
Category 6: Corporate services/ enabling functions.....	30
Executive Board membership	30
EUR/RC53/R1	30
Country strategy.....	31
EUR/RC53/R2.....	31
Geographically dispersed offices.....	31
EUR/RC54/R6.....	31
Governance	32
EUR/RC60/R3.....	32
Partnerships.....	33
EUR/RC60/R4.....	33
Foreign policy and development.....	33
EUR/RC60/R6.....	33
WHO country strategy	34
EUR/RC62/R7.....	34
Geographically dispersed offices.....	35
EUR/RC62(2).....	35
Cross cutting areas	36
Health for All Policy Framework.....	36
EUR/RC53/R3.....	36
Health for All Policy Framework.....	36
EUR/RC55/R4.....	36
Better health.....	37
EUR/RC60/R2.....	37
Health 2020.....	38
EUR/RC61/R1.....	38
Health 2020.....	38
EUR/RC62/R4.....	38

Introduction

1. As part of the evidence in support of the new European health policy framework, Health 2020, the Secretariat conducted a study of the resolutions¹ adopted by the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, which it presented to the Regional Committee at its sixty-second session (RC62) in 2012. The Regional Committee welcomed the study and asked the Secretariat to review all resolutions currently in force and to submit a document to RC63 identifying those resolutions that were no longer relevant and proposing reporting schedules and sunseting, where appropriate.

2. In carrying out this work, the Secretariat took into consideration document EUR/RC58/11,² which aimed to streamline and clarify the requirements for reporting on past resolutions. The Regional Committee then adopted resolution EUR/RC58/R5,³ endorsing the recommendations contained in the document. In that resolution, the Regional Committee also requested the Regional Director:

- (a) to ensure that requirements for reporting on the implementation of resolutions are clearly defined and, for resolutions that specify more than one report back, that the intervals in reporting should be not less than three years and not more than five years;
- (b) to propose, for each resolution, a specified end date for reporting back to the Regional Committee; and
- (c) to discontinue the practice of open-ended reporting.

3. The Secretariat proposes that RC63 follow a similar line of action as RC58 for reporting on past resolutions by establishing the practice of time-limited reporting and discontinuing open-ended reporting. Considering the findings of the study, “Review of the commitments of WHO European Member States and the WHO Regional Office for Europe between 1990 and 2010: analysis in light of Health 2020 strategy”, presented by the Secretariat at RC62, which identified many duplicate and/or superseded resolutions still in force, the Secretariat proposes to establish a process of “sunseting” past resolutions that have been superseded in their entirety to rectify this situation and avoid it occurring again in future.

4. This paper reviews all resolutions adopted by the Regional Committee over the past ten years (2003–2012) in their entirety, including all preambles and operative paragraphs, including requests to Member States and the Regional Director, and reporting requirements. It includes the comments of Member States arising from an on-line consultation held during June and July 2013. This document presents a set of proposals for establishing and clarifying reporting requirements and setting dates for sunseting these resolutions.

5. This paper therefore takes into account the proposals contained in document EUR/RC58/11 that were endorsed by the Regional Committee in 2008, and suggests modifications, in the light of subsequent resolutions, as “new proposals”.

¹ RC62 background document: Review of the commitments of WHO European Member States and the WHO Regional Office for Europe between 1990 and 2010: analysis in light of Health 2020 strategy

² Document EUR/RC58/11: Review of process of reporting back to the Regional Committee on resolutions adopted at previous sessions

³ Resolution EUR/RC58/R5: Review of process of reporting back to the Regional Committee on resolutions adopted at previous sessions

6. The resolution proposed for adoption by the Regional Committee is developed to endorse the proposals in the document that clarify the “sunsetting” procedure and to streamline the reporting requirements.

7. The term “sunsetting”, for the purposes of this resolution, refers to the procedure by which an end date is established for all resolutions. For resolutions that have been superseded in their entirety by subsequent resolutions which amend, cancel or render them moot, the sunsetting process results in an immediate end date.

8. Following the adoption of this resolution, the Secretariat will prepare and make public a full list of resolutions that are still in force. In response to Member State proposals, the Secretariat is also exploring the possible establishment of an online registry of active resolutions through which proposed changes and amendments can be tracked.

Review of resolutions adopted by the Regional Committee in the years 2003–2012, and proposals for sunsetting and reporting requirements

9. The section below presents the status of resolutions approved over the past 10 years (2003–2012) and includes proposals for sunsetting and reporting schedules. The resolutions are grouped according to the six categories of the General Programme of Work and Programme Budget 2014–2015, with an additional section on cross-cutting areas. This takes into account the reporting requirements and end dates of past resolutions, contained in document EUR/RC58/11, as endorsed by RC58, and suggests modifications as “new proposals” to arrangements for sunsetting or reporting schedules in the light of resolutions and action plans approved by the Regional Committee during and after 2008 as new proposals.

Category 1: Communicable diseases

HIV/AIDS

EUR/RC52/R9	Scaling up the response to HIV/AIDS in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2002	Reporting requirement: Every five years after 2008	Report(s) to RC: 2008	End date: 2018

Proposal approved at RC58

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.

New proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC52/R9 as it is superseded by resolution EUR/RC61/R8, “European action plan for HIV/AIDS 2012–2015”.

To report back to RC64 and RC66 in 2014 and 2016 on the implementation of the European Action Plan for HIV/AIDS.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC61/R8.

Malaria

EUR/RC52/R10	Scaling up the response to malaria in WHO's European Region		
Adopted: 2002	Reporting requirement: 2009, 2014	Report(s) to RC: 2009	End date: 2014

Proposal approved at RC58

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.

New 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 2014.

To report on attainment of the goal of malaria elimination by 2015 at RC66 in 2016.

Measles/rubella elimination

EUR/RC55/R7	Strengthening national immunization systems through measles and rubella elimination and prevention of congenital rubella infection in WHO's European Region		
Adopted: 2005	Reporting requirement: Unspecified	First reporting: 2008	End date:

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

1. URGES Member States:

- (a) to commit themselves and give high priority to achieving measles and rubella elimination and congenital rubella infection prevention targets by 2010;

[...]

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to support and advocate collaborative efforts with Member States, governmental and intergovernmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations and other relevant partners to commit resources to strengthen routine national immunization systems; to achieve the measles and rubella elimination and congenital rubella infection prevention targets; and to implement an immunization week within the Region;

- (b) to provide strategic direction and technical guidance, as outlined in the Global immunization vision and strategy 2006–2015, to Member States to support their progress towards strengthening routine national immunization systems, including analysis of reasons for insufficient vaccine coverage and the introduction of new vaccines and technologies, and achieving the elimination targets;

- (c) to work in partnership with other WHO regions to facilitate communication and common approaches, where appropriate, on achieving elimination targets;

(d) to provide the Regional Committee with an update on progress at its fifty-eighth session in 2008.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC55/R7, which is superseded by EUR/RC60/R12 endorsing a new target date of 2015 for the European Regional goals of eliminating measles and rubella while renewing its commitment to achieving those goals, and requesting the Regional Director to provide the Regional Committee with an update on progress towards measles and rubella elimination at its sixty-third session in 2013.

To include a final progress report on measles and rubella elimination and proposed follow-up actions at RC66.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC60/R12.

Measles, rubella and polio

EUR/RC60/R12	Renewed commitment to elimination of measles and rubella and prevention of congenital rubella syndrome by 2015 and Sustained support for polio-free status in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2010	Reporting requirement: Periodic	First reporting: 2013	End date: Open-ended

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

5. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(a) to provide leadership, strategic direction and technical guidance to Member States and specifically in coordinating the annual European Immunization Week, in order to achieve the regional immunization goals;

(b) to engage in global and regional partnerships, to advocate for commitment and resources to strengthen and sustain immunization services, and to prevent and control vaccine-preventable diseases, including poliomyelitis eradication and measles and rubella elimination;

(c) to establish a regional measles and rubella elimination verification commission in order to review Member States' documentation and verify elimination of measles and rubella in the Region and at country level verify that each country is free from indigenous measles and rubella transmission;

(d) to facilitate the exchange of best practices and experiences among Member States on poliomyelitis eradication and measles and rubella elimination, and to use standardized indicators to monitor progress towards elimination targets;

(e) to monitor and evaluate Member States' progress towards reaching immunization targets through assessments and surveys to validate the quality of data on immunization coverage rates; and

(f) to provide the Regional Committee with an update on progress towards measles and rubella elimination at its sixty-third session in 2013.

Proposal

To include a progress report at RC63 in 2013 and the final progress report on measles and rubella elimination at RC66 in 2016, with proposed follow-up actions.

Multidrug- and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis

EUR/RC61/R7	Multidrug- and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2011	Reporting requirement: 2-year intervals	First reporting: 2013	End date: 2015

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to actively support implementation of the Consolidated Action Plan by providing leadership, strategic direction and technical support to Member States;
 - (b) to facilitate the exchange of experiences and know-how between Member States by establishing and strengthening knowledge hubs, centres of excellence and WHO collaborating centres;
 - (c) to make national and international partners more aware that TB and M/XDR-TB is a priority issue in the Region;
 - (d) to establish a European StopTB partnership platform and/or related mechanisms to strengthen the involvement of national and international partners, including civil society organizations, in the prevention and control of TB and M/XDR-TB;
 - (e) in collaboration with national and international partners, to establish adequate mechanisms, involving civil society organizations, communities and the private sector, among others, to assess progress in the prevention and control of M/XDR-TB at regional level every other year, starting from 2013, and to report back to the Regional Committee accordingly.

Proposal

To report on progress achieved in implementation of the Action Plan at RC63 in 2013 and provide the final report at RC65 in 2015.

To provide the proposed follow-up actions together with the final report in 2015.

HIV/AIDS

EUR/RC61/R8	European action plan for HIV/AIDS 2012–2015		
Adopted: 2011	Reporting requirement: 2-year intervals	First reporting: 2014	End date: 2016

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to actively support the implementation of the Plan in the Region by providing leadership, strategic direction and technical guidance to Member States;
 - (b) to engage in global and regional partnerships and to advocate for commitment and resources to strengthen and sustain the response to HIV;
 - (c) to identify and facilitate the exchange of best practices and experiences among Member States and to produce evidence-informed tools for an effective HIV response;
 - (d) to monitor and evaluate Member States' progress towards reaching European goals and targets through a harmonized process of data collection, reporting and analysis;
 - (e) to report back to the Regional Committee at its sixty-fourth and sixty-sixth sessions in 2014 and 2016 on the implementation of the European Action Plan for HIV/AIDS 2012–2015.

Proposal

To report back to RC64 in 2014 on implementation of the European Action Plan for HIV/AIDS and provide a final report with proposed follow-up actions at RC66 in 2016.

Category 2: Noncommunicable diseases

Mental health

EUR/RC53/R4	Mental Health in WHO's European Region		
Adopted: 2003	Reporting requirement: None	First reporting:	End date: None

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

1. REQUESTS the Regional Director, when organizing and implementing activities concerning the update of the Health for All policy, to give high priority to mental health issues in the European Region of WHO;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to arrange a Ministerial Conference on Mental Health in Europe in Helsinki, Finland in January 2005;

3. DECIDES:

[...]

(d) that the outcome of the Conference will be the Helsinki Mental Health Action Plan for Europe, setting out common and sustainable policy recommendations in the context of a priority agenda within a specific time frame and calling for initiatives to be supported by the WHO Regional Office for Europe over the years to come.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC53/R4 as it is superseded by resolution EUR/RC55/R2, which includes a proposal to develop a European Mental Health Action Plan 2014–2020 to be presented to RC63 in 2013.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC55/R2.

Noncommunicable diseases

EUR/RC54/R4	Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2004	Reporting requirement: Single report	First reporting: 2006	End date: 2006

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(a) to continue the process of preparing a comprehensive action-oriented European strategy on noncommunicable diseases, in particular based on common morbidity indicators, with a strong focus on implementation, in collaboration with Member States, intergovernmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations and other relevant partners, including industry, as an integral part of the updated HEALTH21 policy framework, and to present it to the Regional Committee at its fifty-sixth session;

(b) to ensure that the outcomes of the ministerial conferences on environment and health (Budapest, 23–25 June 2004), on mental health in Europe (Helsinki, 12–15 January 2005) and on food and nutrition in 2006, as well as the ongoing work under the European Strategy for Tobacco Control and European Alcohol Action Plan and the forthcoming strategy for the health of children and adolescents, are taken fully into account during that process.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC54/R4, as it is superseded by subsequent resolutions, particularly EUR/RC56/R2 in 2006 which adopted the “European Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases” as a strategic framework for action by Member States, and EUR/RC61/R3, the “Action Plan for implementation of the European Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2012–2016”, approved in 2011.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC61/R3.

Alcohol policy

EUR/RC55/R1	Framework for alcohol policy in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2005	Reporting requirement: Every three years	First reporting: 2008, 2011	End date: 2014

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

1. ENDORSED the Framework for alcohol policy in the WHO European Region outlined in document EUR/RC55/11 as a framework for strategic guidance and policy options for Member States in the European Region [...]
4. 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 approved at RC58

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.

New proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC55/R1 as it is superseded by resolution EUR/RC61/R4 “European action plan to reduce the harmful use of alcohol 2012–2020” adopted by RC61 in 2011.

Refer to resolution EUR/RC61/R4.

Mental health

EUR/RC55/R2	European Ministerial Conference on Mental Health		
Adopted: 2005	Reporting requirement: Regularly	First reporting: 2011	End date: 2016

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

8. 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;

9. 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;

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

Proposal approved at RC58

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.

Note: The European mental health action plan 2014–2020 is presented at RC63 for adoption. The action plan, synchronizing global and regional actions, aims to update the current plan supporting implementation of the Mental Health Declaration for Europe (2005).

Injuries

EUR/RC55/R9	Prevention of injuries in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2005	Reporting requirement: Single report	First reporting: 2008	End date:

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to support Member States in their efforts to strengthen injury prevention and to draw up national action plans;
 - (b) to facilitate the identification and sharing of good practice in the prevention of violence and unintentional injuries;
 - (c) to stimulate and support the network of national focal points and further develop collaboration with other relevant networks of experts and professionals;
 - (d) to provide assistance in building capacity at the technical and policy level in order to strengthen national response to injuries to include surveillance, evidence-based practice and evaluation;
 - (e) to provide technical assistance to improve prehospital treatment and care for victims of unintentional injuries and violence;
 - (f) to promote the development of partnerships and collaboration with the European Union and other international organizations, in particular the Council of Europe, the European Conference of Ministers of Transport, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations Children's Fund, the International Labour Organization, and nongovernmental organizations, as appropriate, to enhance the response to the challenges posed by different causes of injuries;
 - (g) to report back to the Regional Committee in 2008 on progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution by the Secretariat and the Member States.

Proposal

To provide a progress report as part of RC64 proposed agenda item on "Preventing maltreatment and other adverse experiences in childhood" at the Regional Committee in 2014.

Noncommunicable diseases

EUR/RC56/R2	Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2006	Reporting requirement: Single report	First reporting: 2008	End date: Open ended

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to actively support the implementation of the Strategy in the Region and to set up mechanisms for taking action on determinants through a multisectoral approach;
 - (b) to support Member States in implementing the Strategy by strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation, through:
 - the development of an alliance for advocacy and action on noncommunicable diseases with major partners;
 - the establishment of a network of national counterparts as an international resource and advisory mechanism for implementation of the European Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases;
 - the facilitation of exchanges of information on evidence and best practice, focusing on policy development and implementation of the Strategy;
 - the strengthening of intervention and implementation research; and
 - the establishment of a monitoring mechanism to measure progress in policy development, implementation and its related impact on health development, and to collect regularly and report common indicators of noncommunicable disease morbidity in the Region;
 - (c) to report back to the Regional Committee at its fifty-eighth session in 2008 on the implementation of the European Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC56/R2, in accordance with resolution EUR/RC61/R3, the “Action Plan for implementation of the European Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2012–2016”, approved in 2011.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC61/R3.

Nutrition

EUR/RC57/R4	Follow-up to the WHO European Ministerial Conference on Counteracting Obesity and the Second European Action Plan for Food and Nutrition Policy		
Adopted: 2007	Reporting requirement: Every 3 years	Report(s) to RC: 2010	End date: 2013

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

7. 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;

8. 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 approved at RC58

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.

Note: The progress report on implementation of the Action Plan and the suggested way forward is presented at RC63, taking into account the outcomes of the WHO European Ministerial Conference on Nutrition and Noncommunicable Diseases in the Context of Health 2020, held in Vienna, Austria, 4–5 July 2013.

Noncommunicable diseases

EUR/RC61/R3	Action Plan for implementation of the European Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2012–2016		
Adopted: 2011	Reporting requirement: 3-year intervals	First reporting: 2013	End date: 2016

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) in collaboration with Member States¹ and building on the outcome of the United Nations High Level Meeting on NCDs and the targets and indicators to be decided upon at the World Health Assembly in 2012, to refine and complete targets and indicators for the core action areas in the NCD Action Plan
- (b) to synchronize monitoring with the comprehensive monitoring framework to be adopted by the World Health Assembly in 2012;
- (c) to cooperate with and assist Member States and organizations in their efforts to implement the priority actions and interventions described in the NCD Action Plan;
- (d) to promote collaboration with governmental and nongovernmental organizations and between Member States, as well as with WHO, other international organizations and regional actors in support of the Action Plan;
- (e) to deliver a progress report to the Regional Committee at its sixty-third session in 2013 and to report back to the Regional Committee at its sixty-sixth session in 2016 on the implementation of the Action Plan.

Proposal

To present the final report at RC66 in 2016.

To develop and present follow-up action to the Regional Committee at RC66 in 2016.

Alcohol

EUR/RC61/R4	European action plan to reduce the harmful use of alcohol 2012–2020		
Adopted: 2011	Reporting requirement: None	First reporting: None	End date: 2020

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

¹ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to exercise leadership in tackling this public health problem and support policy-makers in Europe with formulating national policies and plans as part of their overall response to noncommunicable diseases;
- (b) to monitor the progress, impact and implementation of the Action Plan, use the information collected to revise and update the European Information System on Alcohol and Health, and use data to compile regular progress reports of alcohol consumption, harm and responses in the Region;
- (c) 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 Action Plan;
- (d) to cooperate with and assist Member States and organizations in their efforts to develop and implement national policies that prevent or reduce the harm resulting from alcohol consumption and alcohol related harm in the Region;
- (e) to promote partnerships with governmental and nongovernmental organizations and between Member States, as well as with WHO, other international organizations and regional actors in support of the Action Plan; and
- (f) to mobilize other international organizations in order to pursue the aims of the Action Plan.

Proposal

To include progress reports on implementation of the alcohol action plan at RC64 and RC67, and the final report at RC70 in 2020.

Children with disabilities

EUR/RC61/R5	WHO European Declaration and Action Plan on the Health of Children and Young People with Intellectual Disabilities and their Families		
Adopted: 2011	Reporting requirement: Single report	First reporting: 2016	End date: 2016

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

8. REQUESTS the WHO Regional Director for Europe to ensure that adequate priority and resources are given to activities and programmes to fulfil the requirements of the Declaration and the Action Plan, according to WHO's mandate, by:

- (a) exercising leadership concerning the role and functioning of health systems in accordance with all relevant European and global standards and policies, in order to meet the needs of children and young people with intellectual disabilities and their families;
- (b) providing technical support to Member States in order to promote quality in service provision and to establish sustainable capacity;
- (c) supporting research initiatives that will result in ethical and evidence-based policy and practice;

(d) monitoring the health status of children and young people with intellectual disabilities and their families and assessing progress towards the implementation of this Declaration and Action Plan;

(e) engaging in partnership with UNICEF, the European Commission and the Council of Europe and other intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations where joint action can facilitate implementation;

9. SUPPORTS the Action Plan that is endorsed by the Declaration, providing a framework for policies and activities towards achieving the aims of the Declaration by 2020;

10. REQUESTS the Regional Director to report to the Regional Committee on progress made in 2016.

Proposal

To report on the progress made in implementation of the Action Plan on the Health of Children and Young People with Intellectual Disabilities at RC66 in 2016.

To present a final report on the Action Plan and Declaration at RC70 in 2020.

Category 3: Promoting health through the life-course

Child and adolescent health

EUR/RC53/R7	The health of children and adolescents in WHO's European Region		
Adopted: 2003	Reporting requirement: Single report	First reporting: 2005	End date: 2005

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(a) to continue the process of preparing a comprehensive European strategy on the health of children and adolescents, in collaboration with Member States, and to present it to the Regional Committee at its fifty-fifth session;

(b) to ensure that the outcomes of the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Budapest, 23–25 June 2004) and the special section on the health of children and adolescents in The European health report 2005 are taken fully into account during that process.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC53/R7 as it is superseded by EUR/RC55/R6 “European strategy for child and adolescent health and development” adopted at RC55.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC55/R6.

Environment

EUR/RC54/R3	Environment and Health		
Adopted: 2004	Reporting requirement: None	First reporting: None	End date: Open-ended

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

7. 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;

8. 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 approved at RC58

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.

New proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC54/R3 as it is superseded by resolution EUR/RC60/R7, “The future of the European environment and health process”, which requests the Environment and Health Ministerial Board (EHMB) to report annually to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Committee on Environmental Policy.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC60/R7.

Child and adolescent health

EUR/RC55/R6	European strategy for child and adolescent health and development		
Adopted: 2005	Reporting requirement: Not specified beyond first report	First reporting: 2008	End date:

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to ensure adequate and appropriate support, including the mobilization of resources, from the WHO Regional Office for Europe to Member States in their efforts to develop and implement national policies and strategies for child and adolescent health and development;
 - (b) to report to the Regional Committee at its fifty-eighth session on the progress and achievements made in developing and implementing child and adolescent health strategies in the European Region.

Proposal

To provide a progress report and a proposed follow-up action to the Regional Committee at RC64 in 2014.

Millennium Development Goals

EUR/RC57/R2	The Millennium Development Goals in the WHO European Region: Health systems and health of mothers and children – lessons learned		
Adopted: 2007	Reporting requirement: Every 2 years	Report(s) to RC: 2009, 2011, 2013	End date: 2015

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

2. REAFFIRMS the European strategy on the MDGs as political guidance and strategic direction for Region-wide action in this area;

[...]

4. 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;

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

Proposal approved at RC58

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

New Proposal

To report to the Regional Committee on progress made towards the MDGs at RC63 in 2013 and RC65 in 2015.

To sunset resolution EUR/RC57/R2 following the final report and present the way forward in 2016, taking into account the work on post-2015 development agenda.

Environment and health

EUR/RC60/R7	The future of the European environment and health process		
Adopted: 2010	Reporting requirement: Annual	First reporting: 2011	End date: 2016

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

9. REQUESTS the EHMB and EHTF to convene according to the schedule endorsed at the Fifth Ministerial Conference and the EHMB to report annually to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Committee on Environmental Policy on achievements and areas needing greater efforts, as well as on the EHMB's and EHTF's activities, work plans and financial requirements;

[...]

11. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:

(a) continue to support implementation of the decisions taken at previous ministerial conferences on environment and health, 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;

(b) continue to provide leadership to the EEHP by further promoting the Regional Office's and country offices' activities in relation to environment and health, with special attention to vulnerable population groups and particularly addressing the social and gender inequalities in environment and health;

(c) pay special attention to fostering strategic partnerships and networks, so that environment and health issues are better integrated across the policies of all sectors;

(d) continue to act as secretariat of the EEHP as set out in the Parma Declaration and *The European Environment and Health Process (2010–2016): Institutional framework* and, for that purpose, to provide the necessary human, financial and organizational resources and capacity;

(e) mobilize international resources to support country implementation of the decisions taken at the Parma Conference.

Note: The progress report on the European Environment and Health Process is presented at RC63 in 2013.

Proposal

To include annual reports by the Environment and Health Ministerial Board (EHMB) as a stand-alone item, depending on the nature of issues covered.

To report on the outcome of the mid-term review on implementation of the Parma Declaration to be held in 2014.

To propose that the agenda for RC66 include an item for reporting on the Sixth Ministerial Conference, to be organized in 2016.

Healthy aging

EUR/RC62/R6	Strategy and action plan on healthy ageing in Europe, 2012–2020		
Adopted: 2012	Reporting requirement: 4-year intervals	First reporting: 2016	End date: 2020

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

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 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.

Proposal

To report on progress in implementation at 4-year intervals, at RC66 in 2016 and RC70 in 2020; follow-up actions will also be proposed together with the final report at RC70.

Category 4: Health systems

Health systems strengthening

EUR/RC55/R8	Strengthening European health systems as a continuation of the WHO Regional Office for Europe's Country Strategy "Matching services to new needs"		
Adopted: 2005	Reporting requirement: Two years	First reporting: 2007	End date: 2009

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) take steps to mobilize the human and financial resources needed to support Member States in developing and implementing their strategies for strengthening health systems, as described in document EUR/RC55/9 Rev.1;
- (b) organize a European ministerial conference on “Strengthening health systems” in 2007 or 2008, based on a consultative and participatory process with Member States, ensuring collaboration and harmonization with partner agencies;
- (c) report back to the Regional Committee in 2007 and 2009 on implementation of the Initiative for Strengthening Health Systems in the Regional Office’s work with countries in the European Region.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC55/R8 as it is superseded by EUR/RC62/R5 “European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services” adopted in 2012 and the first progress report to be delivered at RC66 in 2016.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC62/R5.

Workforce policies

EUR/RC57/R1	Health workforce policies in the European Region		
Adopted: 2007	Reporting requirement: Annual	First reporting: 2008	End date: 2009

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to cooperate with and support Member States in their efforts to improve their health workforce;
- (b) to continue to build and support capacities in health workforce policy development, planning and management at national level and in the WHO European Region as a whole, and to facilitate and promote the harmonization of health workforce data and the use of standard indicators and tools to improve quality and comparability;
- (c) to develop a core set of health workforce indicators to be used for monitoring and evaluation of the current situation and trends at national and WHO European Regional levels, and to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, information, experience and evidence in effective health workforce development and management among Member States and partners;
- (d) to develop recommendations to set up systems for stimulating and motivating the health workforce to work in remote and rural areas, as well as mechanisms for professional development;

- (e) to give high priority to monitoring health worker migration and policy interventions at national and international levels through the continuing analysis of country reports and the publication of annual regional syntheses of those reports;
- (f) to facilitate the development of an ethical guide/framework for international recruitment of health workers into and within the European Region;
- (g) to ensure that the health workforce remains a priority of the WHO Regional Office for Europe, in the context of strengthening health systems, and to mobilize resources to support countries in the area of health workforce development, in line with the WHO Medium-term strategic plan;
- (h) to continue building and strengthening networks and partnerships that contribute to establishing sustainable human resources for health in the Region, and to advocate with national stakeholders, development partners, international agencies, donors and all relevant programmes within WHO that more effective investment should be made in health workforce development and better resource coordination;
- (i) to put health workforce policies on the agenda of the WHO European Ministerial Conference on Health Systems in 2008;
- (j) to report back to the Regional Committee at its fifty-ninth session in 2009 on the progress made.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC57/R1, which is superseded by resolution EUR/RC59/R4, “Health workforce policies in the WHO European Region”.

Following the technical briefing at RC62 in 2012, propose to include as a substantial item on the agenda at a future Regional Committee session.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC59/R4.

Stewardship/governance

EUR/RC58/R4	Stewardship/governance of health systems in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2008	Reporting requirement: Every 4 years	First reporting: 2011	End date: 2015

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

6. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:
 - (a) take steps to support ministries of health in developing their competences to carry out their health system stewardship function, including their skills in leading intersectoral efforts across government to address the broader determinants of health;
 - (b) facilitate the further development of relevant evaluation tools, performance indicators and minimum standards to assess the effectiveness of the health system stewardship function in a context of accountability, pluralism and transparency;

(c) facilitate the collaboration of Member States on successful health systems stewardship practices and promote the sharing among Member States of case studies from the WHO European Region and beyond;

(d) reinforce collaboration on health systems strengthening with other international organizations concerned by and active in the health field, such as the World Bank, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the International Organization for Migration, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the European Commission and related institutions, the European Investment Bank and others;

(e) report to the Regional Committee in 2011 and again, with a final report, in 2015 on the support provided by the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the progress accomplished by Member States in the framework of the follow-up to the WHO European Ministerial Conference on Health Systems held in Tallinn.

Note: A progress report was presented to the Regional Committee in 2011. A final report on progress accomplished is planned to be placed on the agenda of RC65 in the framework of follow-up to the WHO European Ministerial Conference on Health Systems held in Tallinn in 2008.

Proposal

To arrange the reporting for resolution EUR/RC58/R4 as follows:

- that the stewardship/governance aspects of resolution EUR/RC58/R4 (i.e. operative paragraphs 6(a), (c) and (d)) are incorporated in Health 2020 reporting, since stewardship/governance are embedded in resolution EUR/RC62/R4, “Health 2020 – The European policy framework for health and well-being”, and the work on stewardship/governance is implemented in a coherent way;
- that a report on the outcome of the high-level meeting on health systems for health and wealth in the context of Health 2020 to be held in October 2013 in Tallinn, Estonia, is presented at RC64 in 2014;
- that the final report on the implementation of the Tallinn Charter and a proposal for follow-up actions are presented at RC65 in 2015.

Behaviour change

EUR/RC58/R8	Behaviour change strategies and health: the role of health systems		
Adopted: 2008	Reporting requirement: Final report	First reporting: 2015	End date: 2015

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:

(a) facilitate the exchange and sharing of experiences among Member States with regard to case studies and demonstration projects in the field of behaviour change in the WHO European Region and beyond, in order to document the critical health system-

related factors that are at play, and to enable lessons to be learned and achievements to be replicated;

(b) take steps when so requested to support ministries of health in developing their competences to address behaviour change, including integrated multisectoral policies and strategies within their health systems;

(c) position the WHO European Region for the upcoming debates at the Sixty-second World Health Assembly on the report of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health and the action plan for the global strategy for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (World Health Assembly resolution WHA61.14 on Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases: implementation of the global strategy) and for the upcoming debate at the Sixty-third World Health Assembly on the Global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol (World Health Assembly resolution WHA61.4 on Strategies to reduce the harmful use of alcohol);

(d) support robust and methodologically sound evaluation of the progress made at national and European level in this area (individual and population health, disease burden, health care costs and the critical factors for success in linking theory and practice);

(e) explore, with those Member States that have specific interests in the area, the main implications for health systems and the wider government response;

(f) report to the Regional Committee in 2015 on the support provided to Member States by the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the progress made by Member States in the framework of follow-up to the WHO European Ministerial Conference on Health Systems, held in Tallinn in 2008.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC58/R8 in 2015, taking into account resolutions EUR/RC61/R3, “Action plan for implementation of the European Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases”, and EUR/RC62/R5, “European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services” and present proposed follow-up actions to the Regional Committee in 2015.

Economic crisis

EUR/RC59/R3	Health in times of global economic crisis: implications for the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2009	Reporting requirement: One report	First reporting: 2011	End date: 2011

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

5. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:

(a) provide leadership to Member States in their efforts to minimize the negative impact of the crisis on the health of their populations by offering services tailored to specific country needs;

(b) produce health intelligence as well as conduct innovative, value-adding policy dialogue with countries by means of voluntary benchmarking, networking among

interested countries on specific topics, sharing of information by all, and the production of a minimum set of relevant common indicators for follow-up;

(c) report back to the Regional Committee at its sixty-first session in 2011 on the lessons learned at regional level in the handling of the economic crisis.

Note: Progress was reported on under RC61 agenda item “Interim report on the Tallinn Charter and the way forward”. It was also covered at the technical briefing at RC60, and at RC62 it was a topic for discussion at the ministerial lunch. The outcome of the High-Level Meeting on Health systems in times of global economic crisis: an update of the situation in the WHO European Region, held in Oslo, Norway, in April 2013, is presented at RC63.

Health workforce

EUR/RC59/R4	Health workforce policies in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2009	Reporting requirement: One report	First reporting: 2012	End date: 2012

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(a) to continue to promote the harmonization of health workforce data and the use of standard indicators and tools to improve quality and comparability for assessing performance in human resources for health;

(b) to continue to develop the core set of indicators for assessing performance in health workforce development in Member States, and to monitor and evaluate the current patterns and trends in migration of health workers, and the implementation and impact of policy interventions at national and WHO European Regional levels through the analysis of country reports and the publication of annual regional syntheses of those reports;

(c) to complete the consultation process with Members States, civil society organizations, professional associations and other regional and international entities, and the compilation and review of the various national and regional codes of practice in the WHO European Region and of the literature and data on migration of health workforce, as an input to the global code of practice for the international recruitment of health workers; and

(d) to report back to the Regional Committee at its sixty-second session in 2012 on the progress made.

Note: An update on progress was contained in the technical briefing on “Human resources for health, including implementation of the Global Code of Practice” given during RC62.

Proposal

Propose to include the topic as a substantial item on the agenda at a future Regional Committee session.

Public health policy

EUR/RC60/R5	Addressing key public health and health policy challenges in Europe: moving forwards in the quest for better health in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2010	Reporting requirement: None	First reporting:	End date: 2012

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. REQUESTS Member States to collaborate in the development of a European health policy led by the WHO Regional Office for Europe and of a common framework for national health strategies and policies;
4. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to develop a European health policy, as a coherent policy framework, through a participatory process involving Member States, the European Union and other partners (this policy framework will include a vision statement with values and principles as well as targets, goals and objectives and strategies);
 - (b) to promote renewed political commitment to the development or renewal of comprehensive national policies, strategies and plans, as a project driven by the Organization's Global Policy Group, and to ensure that WHO works hand in hand with its Member States to support them in their strategic developments to improve health outcomes and strengthen their health systems;
 - (c) to develop a renewed focus and rejuvenated commitment to public health capacity, function and services, and to make a real commitment to and investment in prevention and health promotion;
 - (d) to maintain a commitment to strengthening health systems (by building consensus, further clarifying, if necessary, the definitions, concepts, functions, and linkages involved, and developing practical tools and instruments for implementation);
 - (e) to review the public health tools and instruments for the 21st century;
 - (f) to make critical assessment of all ongoing activities, especially those in the area of standard setting and creating norms with a view to make best benefit of experiences and structures that exist in the region;
 - (g) in meeting all the above commitments, to work closely with Member States and other partners to guide this process.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC60/R5, since it is superseded by resolutions EUR/RC62/R5, "European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services", and EUR/RC62/R4, "Health 2020 – The European policy framework for health and well-being".

To report on progress in implementation at RC66 and RC70 in 2016 and 2020, and present follow-up actions together with the final report in 2020.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC62/R5.

Public health capacity

EUR/RC61/R2	Strengthening public health capacities and services in Europe: a framework for action		
Adopted: 2011	Reporting requirement: Final report	First reporting:	End date: 2012

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
- (a) to ensure that the framework for action is aligned with the strategies of WHO globally and with decisions made in the World Health Assembly;
 - (b) to assess public health services and capacities and gaps in Member States with the WHO web-based assessment tool and to report back to them and the Regional Committee with conclusions and recommendations;
 - (c) based on the outcomes of the above-mentioned assessments, to develop a European action plan for strengthening public health capacities and services in Europe, as part of the approach of strengthening health systems, through a participatory process involving Member States and partners;
 - (d) to submit the European Action Plan to the sixty-second session of the Regional Committee for consideration, together with and under the umbrella of the new European health policy, Health 2020.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC61/R2, since it is superseded by resolution EUR/RC62/R5, “European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services”.

To report on progress in implementation of EUR/RC62/R5 at RC66 and RC70 in 2016 and 2020, and present follow-up actions together with the final report in 2020.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC62/R5.

Public health capacity

EUR/RC62/R5	European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services		
Adopted: 2012	Reporting requirement: Single report	First reporting: 2016	End date: 2020

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

6. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to promote renewed political commitment to public health and ensure that WHO works hand in hand with Member States upon their request to support them in strategic development of their policies to improve health outcomes and strengthen public health services;
- (b) to develop partnerships with relevant international stakeholders and partners to make a real commitment to and investment in a new generation of prevention and health promotion activities and in the implementation of the European Action Plan;
- (c) to update and further develop the essential public health operations, as appropriate, in a dialogue with Member States to ensure that they increasingly match the specificities and challenges of health systems in the Region;
- (d) to further develop the internet self-assessment tool in order to allow interested Member States to carry out self-assessments of public health services and capacities;
- (e) to give feedback to Member States on their self-assessment of public health services and capacities as appropriate, and provide the Regional Committee, at its sixty sixth session, with a synthesis of the results, including practical recommendations; and
- (f) to report to the Regional Committee at its sixty sixth session on the implementation of the European Action Plan and the development of essential public health operations and to propose for consideration, as appropriate, further actions to be carried out in the period until 2020.

Proposal

To report on progress in implementation at RC66 and RC70 in 2016 and 2020, and present follow-up actions together with the final report in 2020.

Category 5: Preparedness, surveillance and response

International Health Regulations (2005)

EUR/RC59/R5	Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2009	Reporting requirement: None	First reporting: None	End date: Open-ended

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:

- (a) support Member States in their IHR implementation and pandemic preparedness and response in a need-driven manner and continue to monitor activities and capacities, in order to formulate regional strategies for response and long-term capacity-building;
- (b) continue to provide leadership in coordinating and prioritizing activities and provide tools and technical support for Member States, particularly those in need;
- (c) facilitate exchanges of information and experience among Member States and make regularly available to national IHR focal points information on the detection,

assessment and management of events, including lessons learned in the implementation and application of the IHR;

(d) engage in global and regional partnerships to foster coordination with other relevant intergovernmental bodies while maintaining direct communication between Member States and WHO in detection, assessment and response with regard to international public health risks;

(e) extract lessons learned from pandemic (H1N1) 2009 in order to translate these into evidence-based recommendations for Member States and WHO in the European Region, and for strengthening capacities for detection, assessment and response in the short, medium and long terms;

(f) collaborate with Member States and engage in global and regional partnerships, fostering coordination with other relevant intergovernmental bodies in efforts to mobilize human and financial resources for detection, assessment and response with regard to international public health risks, notably pandemic (H1N1) 2009;

(g) provide expertise and technical guidance documentation for monitoring the implementation of national IHR action plans;

(h) at the request of the State Party concerned, facilitate the certification by WHO of airports and ports as per Article 20 paragraph 4 of the Regulations.

Proposal

To report to the Regional Committee on the progress made in implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) at two-year intervals at RC63 in 2013 and RC65 in 2015, with an end report at RC67 in 2017, with proposed further actions.

Antibiotic resistance

EUR/RC61/R6	European strategic action plan on antibiotic resistance		
Adopted: 2011	Reporting requirement: Yearly, then 2-year intervals starting in 2014	First reporting: 2012	End date: 2020

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:

(a) continue to exercise leadership in addressing the public health importance of antibiotic resistance and provide tools, guidance and technical support to Member States;

(b) support Member States in assessing their current situation with regard to antibiotic resistance, antibiotic consumption, and their capacity to develop and implement national action plans;

(c) facilitate exchanges of information and Region-wide analysis of trends and drivers of antibiotic resistance, including through the creation of regional platforms for sharing and analysing data;

- (d) in collaboration with Member States, engage in regional and global partnerships in efforts to foster the regional mobilization of human and financial resources to improve national and regional capacities to contain antibiotic resistance;
- (e) engage with regional partners in reviewing and promoting tools and guidance on the use of antibiotics outside human populations and supporting innovation and research into antibiotic agents and diagnostic tools;
- (f) engage with relevant nongovernmental organizations and patient safety groups to foster heightened awareness of antibiotic resistance and the importance of prudent use of antibiotics;
- (g) report to the Regional Committee on the progress made in implementing the European Strategic action plan each year until 2014 and every second year thereafter, with final reporting in 2020.

Proposal

To report to the Regional Committee on progress achieved in implementation of the action plan at RC63, RC64, RC66 and RC68.

To provide the final report at RC70 in 2020 and present the way forward.

Category 6: Corporate services/ enabling functions

Executive Board membership

EUR/RC53/R1	Membership of the Executive Board		
Adopted: 2003	Reporting requirement: Once	First reporting: 2010	End date: 2010

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

1. URGES those Member States that have not yet done so to ratify the amendments to Articles 24 and 25 of the WHO Constitution, which *inter alia* would give the European Region an eighth seat on the Board;
2. RECOMMENDS that, as from 2004, the criteria regarding the Member State and regarding the candidate and the geographic groupings, as proposed by the Standing Committee's subgroup in Annex 2 of document EUR/RC53/4 and annexed to this resolution, should be applied when selecting Member States in the European Region of WHO to submit candidatures for membership of the Board;
3. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that, as from 2006, the periodicity of Board membership for those Member States in the European Region of WHO that are permanent members of the United Nations Security Council should be extended to three out of six years;
4. CALLS ON Member States to take account of the guidelines contained in paragraph 15 of Annex 2 to the Standing Committee's report when designating persons to serve on the Board;

5. REQUESTS the Standing Committee to assess the experience gained in implementing the above recommendations and to report its findings to the Regional Committee at its sixtieth session in 2010.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC53/R1, “Membership of the Executive Board”.

Country strategy

EUR/RC53/R2	Progress in implementing the WHO Regional Office for Europe’s Country Strategy		
Adopted: 2003	Reporting requirement: Final Report	First reporting: 2004	End date: 2004

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to continue initiatives that facilitate implementation of the European Country Strategy as described in document EUR/RC53/10; and
 - (b) to report back to the Regional Committee at its fifty-fourth session on the impact of implementation of the Country Strategy on working with countries in the European Region, based on short specific reports from the country offices concerned.

Proposal

To report on the impact of implementation of the Country Strategy to the Regional Committee at RC64 in 2014.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC62/R7.

Geographically dispersed offices

EUR/RC54/R6	Strategy of the WHO Regional Office for Europe with regard to geographically dispersed offices		
Adopted: 2004	Reporting requirement: Every five years	First reporting: 2009	End date: 2019

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

2. 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 approved at RC58

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.

Note: The work of the GDOs is presented as a stand alone item at RC63 in 2013. The business models for two potential new GDOs in the areas of primary health care and humanitarian crisis are presented at RC63 in 2013, making use of document EUR/RC62/11 in line with decision EUR/RC62(2).

New proposal

To include the report on the work of the GDOs as part of the Regional Director's report to the Regional Committee every year from 2013 to 2018.

To include a report on the work of the GDOs as a stand alone item every five years at RC68 in 2018 and on the opening of any new GDO.

See proposal for decision EUR/RC62(2).

Governance

EUR/RC60/R3	Governance of the WHO Regional Office for Europe		
Adopted: 2010	Reporting requirement: Annually	First reporting: 2011	End date: Open-ended

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

4. RECOMMENDS that, in order to ensure an equitable geographical balance of membership, the selection of Member States in the European Region to submit candidatures for membership of the Board and of the Standing Committee should in future be governed by the subregional groupings of countries (contained in part 1 of an annex to this resolution);
5. DECIDES that [...] the increased membership of the Standing Committee, based on revised subregional groupings, shall take effect as from 2010;
6. CALLS ON Member States in the European Region of WHO to take account of the criteria contained in part 2 of the annex to this resolution when designating persons to serve on the Executive Board and on the Standing Committee;
7. REQUESTS the Standing Committee to initiate a cycle of comprehensive reviews of governance in the WHO European Region and to report back to the Regional Committee on

lessons learned in this regard at such intervals as the Standing Committee itself deems appropriate.

Note: An update on implementation of resolution EUR/RC60/R3 is included at RC63 in 2013.

Proposal

The Standing Committee to initiate a comprehensive review of governance every five years and report back to RC68 in 2018.

Partnerships

EUR/RC60/R4	Partnerships for health in the WHO European Region		
Adopted: 2010	Reporting requirement: Annually	First reporting: 2011	End date: Open-ended

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director to take note of the discussions and comments of the Regional Committee in:

- (a) ensuring that partnerships should benefit all the Member States and emphasizing that cooperation at country level is essential to improving health;
- (b) further negotiating and investigating modalities for strengthening relations with all partners for health, including the European Union and its institutions;
- (c) developing a strategy for partnerships for health in the WHO European Region, to be presented to the Regional Committee at its sixty-first session.

Proposal

To include partnerships as an agenda item at RC64 in 2014.

To postpone presentation of a partnership strategy to a future Regional Committee session, owing to the WHO reform process.

Foreign policy and development

EUR/RC60/R6	Health in foreign policy and development cooperation: public health is global health		
Adopted: 2010	Reporting requirement: None	First reporting:	End date:

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:
- (a) support Member States in better integrating global health in foreign policy and development cooperation aims and processes and helping health ministries and health personnel to form a better understanding of foreign policy and development cooperation dynamics;
 - (b) identify priority issues for a health sector/foreign policy and development cooperation dialogue and assist with conducting such dialogues at regular intervals;
 - (c) analyse innovations in cross-government strategies and coordination processes that offer promising ways of improving foreign policy and development cooperation acumen, capabilities and performance in the area of global health;
 - (d) support research and analysis to generate a comprehensive picture of how global health and foreign policy and development cooperation are linked throughout the WHO European Region and to engage with national and regional schools of diplomacy and foreign affairs;
 - (e) contribute to strengthening the capacity of diplomats and health officials in global health diplomacy and develop training standards and open-source information, education and training resources for this purpose.

Proposal

To provide an update on progress to the Regional Committee in the Regional Director's report, as relevant, and to review the resolution as needed, in line with Health 2020.

WHO country strategy

EUR/RC62/R7	A country strategy for the WHO Regional Office for Europe 2012–2014		
Adopted: 2012	Reporting requirement: Single report	First reporting: 2014	End date: 2014

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
- (a) to take a holistic approach to work for, with and in countries by ensuring cross-country learning and development, and sharing of new knowledge, tools and instruments by and for all Member States;
 - (b) to facilitate the development of a CCS with each Member States that wishes to have one;
 - (c) to develop flexible and effective mechanisms for closer cooperation between WHO and countries that take into account the needs and capacity of the country and ongoing development of the new CCS model, and propose these as part of the new country strategy;
 - (d) to review and update lists and mailing lists of national counterparts as main contact points for cooperation with WHO and the lists and mailing lists of national technical focal

points as contacts for cooperation in specific areas and publish these on the WHO web site by February 2013;

(e) to develop, in consultation with Member States, and propose a new country strategy for adoption by the Regional Committee at its sixty-fourth session, specifying the objectives of the strategy, measures to achieve the objectives, criteria for setting up and closing of country offices, description of mechanisms for closer cooperation between WHO and countries that take into account the needs and capacity of the country, and other relevant issues.

Proposal

To “develop, in consultation with Member States, and propose a new country strategy for adoption by the Regional Committee at its sixty-fourth session” as requested by resolution EUR/RC62/R7 “A country strategy for the WHO Regional Office for Europe 2012–2014”.

Geographically dispersed offices

EUR/RC62(2)	Strengthening the role of the Regional Office’s geographically dispersed offices (GDOs): a renewed GDO strategy for Europe		
Adopted: 2012	Reporting requirement: 2013	First reporting: 2013	End date: 2013

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee decides:

1. that the Secretariat has the mandate to establish a GDO in the area of noncommunicable diseases (NCD) in a candidate country should the Greek government decide to withdraw as a host country, taking into account the expression of interest made by the Russian Federation;
2. to request the Secretariat, in cooperation with candidate countries, to develop business models for potential new GDOs in the areas of primary health care and humanitarian crisis with the full involvement of the SCRC, taking into account the expression of interest made by Kazakhstan for hosting such an office for primary health care, to be proposed for adoption at the sixty-third session of the Regional Committee;
3. in presenting options on the selection of new strategic areas and the establishment of potential GDOs, that the Secretariat shall make use of the content in document EUR/RC62/11.

Note: The work of the GDOs is presented as a stand alone item at RC63 in 2013. The business models for two potential new GDOs in the areas of primary health care and humanitarian crisis are presented at RC63 in 2013, making use of document EUR/RC62/11 in line with decision EUR/RC62(2).

Proposal

To include the report on the work of the GDOs as part of the Regional Director’s report to the Regional Committee every year from 2013 to 2018.

To include the report on the work of the GDOs as a stand alone item every five years at RC68 in 2018 and on the opening of any new GDO.

Cross cutting areas

Health for All Policy Framework

EUR/RC53/R3	Update of the Regional Health for All (HFA) Policy Framework		
Adopted: 2003	Reporting requirement: Final report	First reporting: 2005	End date: 2005

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
 - (a) to continue the updating process as described in document EUR/RC53/8;
 - (b) to consult with Member States;
 - (c) to report on progress made to the Regional Committee at its fifty-fourth session; and
 - (d) to submit a final update for adoption by the Regional Committee at its fifty-fifth session in 2005.

Proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC53/R3 as it is superseded by resolutions EUR/RC55/R4 “Health for All” and EUR/RC62/R4 “Health 2020 – The European policy framework for health and well-being” adopted in 2012.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC62/R4.

Health for All Policy Framework

EUR/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	Report(s) to RC: 2008, 2012	End date: 2017

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. 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 headquarters, 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 approved at RC58

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.

New proposal

To sunset resolution EUR/RC55/R4 as it is superseded by resolution EUR/RC62/R4, "Health 2020 – The European policy framework for health and well-being", by which the Regional Committee requested that a monitoring system for Health 2020 be submitted to RC63.

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC62/R4.

Better health

EUR/RC60/R2	Better health for Europe		
Adopted: 2010	Reporting requirement: Annually	First reporting: 2011	End date: Open-ended

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:
 - (a) implement her proposals for strengthening the work of the Regional Office and its dispersed and country offices in full respect of national competencies;
 - (b) promote relevance and excellence in the development of its technical programmes;
 - (c) further strengthen collaboration with Member States and other partners, particularly the European Union, with a view to making such collaboration more strategic and while taking advantage of synergies and avoiding duplication of work;
 - (d) take initiatives to mobilize the human and financial resources required for effective implementation of the vision;
 - (e) report back to the Regional Committee at its relevant sessions on the progress made, in line with the road map and time frame set out in the paper.

Note: The topic has been covered annually in the Regional Director's report to the Regional Committee and at regular intervals in the *European health report* (most recently at RC62).

Proposal

To include future progress reports on better health for Europe in the Regional Director's report and in progress reports on Health 2020.

Health 2020

EUR/RC61/R1	The new European policy for health – Health 2020: Vision, values, main directions and approaches		
Adopted: 2011	Reporting requirement: Single report	First reporting: 2012	End date: 2012

Operative paragraph

The Regional Committee,

[...]

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director to continue to consult all Member States¹ before the sixty-second session of the Regional Committee and to develop, according to the guiding framework as presented at the sixty-first session, taking into account comments made by delegations, the final draft of the Health 2020 policy, with specific written consultations with all Member States in early 2012, in order to ensure adequate time for full responses and to submit to Member States by the time of the sixty-fifth World Health Assembly and to the Regional Committee at its sixty-second session for adoption.

Proposal

To sunset resolution, since it is superseded by resolution EUR/RC62/R4, "Health 2020 – The European policy framework for health and well-being".

See proposal for resolution EUR/RC62/R4.

Health 2020

EUR/RC62/R4	Health 2020 – The European policy framework for health and well-being		
Adopted: 2012	Reporting requirement: Regular reports	Reporting: Mid- term evaluation in 2016	End date:

Operative paragraphs

The Regional Committee,

[...]

¹ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations

4. AGREES that a mid-term evaluation of progress with regard to uptake and implementation of the Health 2020 policy framework should be submitted to the Regional Committee in 2016;

[...]

6. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:

- (a) support Member States, where appropriate, in developing and updating their health policies in accordance with Health 2020;
- (b) ensure that in each further resolution dealing with strategies on different issues in the work of the WHO Regional Office for Europe, a special reference should be added to the relation and interconnection with the Health 2020 strategy;
- (c) ensure wide dissemination of the regional Health 2020 policy framework and to prepare appropriate information material for communication to relevant audiences;
- (d) promote the regional Health 2020 policy framework to other international and integrational bodies active in the health and other sectors in the Region as a possible frame of reference for the development of policies according to the health in all policies and whole-of-government approaches;
- (e) continuously update the evidence and knowledge base on strategies and methods that work, in order to promote and facilitate the implementation of Health 2020 using all appropriate communication tools;
- (f) in consultation with the Member States and regional economic integration organizations, where appropriate, develop a monitoring system for Health 2020 using the existing indicators to the maximum extent possible as outlined in operative paragraph 2 and submit it to the sixty-third session of the Regional Committee for consideration.

Note: A monitoring system for Health 2020 is developed and presented at RC63 in 2013.

Proposal

To provide the first progress report on implementation of Health 2020 at RC64 in 2014.

To provide a mid-term evaluation report at RC66 in 2016 and the final report at RC71 in 2021.