The Forty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the implementation of the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS in document A46/14;

Recalling resolutions WHA40.26, WHA41.24, WHA42.33, WHA42.34, WHA43.10 and WHA45.35, as well as United Nations Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/33 and United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/40;

Recognizing with concern the rapid spread of HIV and AIDS as a crucial health problem with major implications for women and children and for overall health policy in many countries of the world and which places an increasing burden on already strained health and social services;

Recognizing the role of other sexually transmitted diseases in the spread of HIV;

Recognizing that a multisectoral response is required to strengthen preventive efforts and to reduce the increasing social and economic consequences of the pandemic, and that a wide range of organizations, agencies and groups need to contribute to this response;

Expressing appreciation to all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and the many nongovernmental organizations concerned, for their expanding activities undertaken in support of the global AIDS strategy;

Realizing the need for a consistent source of technical, policy and strategic advice on HIV and AIDS as well as for monitoring and evaluation techniques;

Recognizing that resource constraints make ever more essential the need to use resources in the most cost-effective manner;

Considering the ongoing reform in the United Nations system to improve coordination in general, and welcoming in particular the strengthening of the Inter-Agency Advisory Group on AIDS, and the newly formed Task Force on HIV/AIDS Coordination established by the Management Committee of the WHO Global Programme on AIDS to facilitate coordination of the response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic,

1. REQUESTS the Director-General, taking full account of the views of the Management Committee, to consider the economic and organizational benefits - to Member States and the United Nations system - of a joint and cosponsored United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS, designed to:

   (1) provide the cosponsoring agencies with technical, strategic and policy direction;
(2) collaborate with other organizations of the United Nations system, governments and nongovernmental agencies on matters related to HIV and AIDS;

(3) strengthen governments' capacity to coordinate HIV/AIDS activities at country level;

2. REQUESTS the Director-General, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 1 above, to study the feasibility and practicability of establishing such a programme, giving particular attention to:

(1) the anticipated growth and consequences of the pandemic over the next two decades;

(2) the likely level of resources available for actions in relation to HIV and AIDS over the next decade;

(3) the practical arrangements for establishing such a programme, including management systems and structures;

(4) the need to have global leadership for a coordinated international response to the pandemic;

3. REQUESTS the Director-General to undertake the above in close consultation with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the President of the World Bank; and in collaboration with other relevant international organizations, nongovernmental organizations and Member States;

4. CALLS UPON the organizations of the United Nations system cited in operative paragraph 3 above, as well as the Management Committee Task Force on HIV/AIDS Coordination, to participate actively in this consultative process;

5. URGES those providing contributions to the Global Programme on AIDS to continue to provide needed financial support while consultations are under way;

6. REQUESTS the Director-General, on the basis of the consultations, to develop options for a cosponsored programme with the organizations cited in operative paragraph 3, taking into full account the views of the Management Committee;

7. REQUESTS the Director-General to report on the outcome of the consultative process to the ninety-third session of the Executive Board in January 1994.

Thirteenth plenary meeting, 14 May 1993
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