II. RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

WPR/RC52.R1 PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET: 2002-2003

The Regional Committee,

Having examined the proposed programme budget for the Western Pacific Region for the biennium 2002-2003 to be financed from the regular budget and other sources of funds;¹

Noting with appreciation the new format of the programme budget, in particular the inclusion of expected results and measurable indicators and encouraging further refinements of them in support of the programme of work;

Appreciating that the new budget cycle provides the opportunity to conduct detailed planning at country level nearer the time of implementation, and to address the goals, objectives and strategies of the 17 regional focuses;

1. THANKS the Regional Director for his comprehensive presentation on the current method of developing the programme budget and for taking into account the views and concerns expressed by the Regional Committee during its review of Part 2 of the proposed programme budget at its fifty-first session;

2. URGES Member States to work with WHO to make every effort to implement the programme budget;

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director to ensure that the Regional Committee's views and concerns as noted in the summary record are fully taken into account in the implementation of the programme budget for 2002-2003.

Fourth meeting, 12 September 2001
WPR/RC52/SR/4

WPR/RC52.R2 FOOD SAFETY

The Regional Committee,

Recalling resolution WHA53.15, which requested the Director-General to give greater emphasis to food safety;

Recalling also that food safety was one of the eleven priorities identified in the general programme of work, 2002-2005, approved by the Fifty-fourth World Health Assembly in resolution WHA54.1;

Having considered the draft regional strategy for food safety;²

¹ Document WPR/RC52/4.
² Document WPR/RC52/6.
Recognizing that foodborne illnesses associated with microbial pathogens, biotoxins and chemical contamination represent a serious threat to public health in the Region;

Further recognizing the need for improved surveillance systems to evaluate the burden of foodborne diseases;

Appreciating the importance of food safety policy, law and regulations and the standards, guidelines and other recommendations of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in protecting health, enhancing trade in safe food and providing economic benefits;

Further appreciating the value of integrating food safety policy with national policies addressing areas such as nutrition, food security, poverty alleviation, gender equity and healthy settings and environment;

Noting the need to strengthen risk-based food safety strategies to focus national efforts on preventing and controlling foodborne hazards;

Mindful of the significant role that food, animal husbandry, agriculture and aquaculture play in the development of antimicrobial resistance;

Aware of the need for primary producers, food manufacturers and processors and food service sector personnel to understand and appreciate their responsibility for food safety, and of the need for training in the safe production, processing, and handling of food;

Aware also of the role that schools and families play in improving food safety;

Taking into account the increasing concern of consumers and consumer representatives regarding the safety of the food supply;

1. **ENDORSES** the regional strategy for food safety, taking into account the views of Member States, including those noted in the summary record;

2. **URGES** Member States:
   
   (1) to adopt the regional strategy for food safety as a framework for the development of national food safety programmes;

   (2) to provide, through a coordinated multisectoral approach, adequate resources to establish and strengthen national food safety programmes;

   (3) to implement food safety programmes that are based on a sound scientific foundation;

   (4) to strengthen their participation in the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission;

3. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director:

   (1) to support Member States in capacity-building and in the implementation of national food safety programmes based on the regional strategy for food safety;

   (2) to work with all key stakeholders, including Member States, international agencies, development banks, bilateral aid agencies, industry, consumer groups and other partners, in the field of food safety in the Region;
(3) to advocate the significance of food safety for public health, trade and economic development;

(4) to disseminate accurate food safety information, including information on genetically-modified food when it becomes available, to Member States in order to empower them to make decisions based upon scientific evidence;

(5) to share the regional strategy for food safety with WHO Headquarters in order to enhance consistency between regional and global strategies;

(6) to advocate the harmonization of food legislation in accord with the Codex Alimentarius, as a means of facilitating trade and protecting public health.

Fourth meeting, 12 September 2001
WPR/RC52/SR/4

WPR/RC52.R3  ERADICATION OF POLIOMYELITIS IN THE REGION

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the report of the Regional Director on the eradication of poliomyelitis in the Region;¹

Noting with great satisfaction that on 29 October 2000 the Regional Commission for the Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication in the Western Pacific concluded that the transmission of indigenous wild poliovirus had been interrupted in all countries and areas of the Region and therefore the Region could be certified as poliomyelitis-free;

Acknowledging the achievements of Member States in providing high-quality documentary evidence of the absence of wild poliovirus transmission in each country and area of the Region;

Noting that substantial progress has been made to establish national laboratory inventories of wild poliovirus infectious and potentially infectious materials;

Noting further that the Regional Certification Commission will continue to function and to meet annually to review progress reports from all countries and areas on their maintenance of poliomyelitis-free status;

Acknowledging that, although much progress has been made globally, poliomyelitis is still endemic in neighbouring regions, and importation of wild poliovirus into the Western Pacific Region will remain a possibility until global eradication is achieved;

Concerned that a recent outbreak of poliomyelitis reported from the Dominican Republic and Haiti was caused by vaccine-derived polioviruses circulating in areas of very low immunization coverage;

¹ Document WPR/RC52/5.
II. RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

WPR/RC52.R1 PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET: 2002-2003

The Regional Committee,

Having examined the proposed programme budget for the Western Pacific Region for the biennium 2002-2003 to be financed from the regular budget and other sources of funds;¹

Noting with appreciation the new format of the programme budget, in particular the inclusion of expected results and measurable indicators and encouraging further refinements of them in support of the programme of work;

Appreciating that the new budget cycle provides the opportunity to conduct detailed planning at country level nearer the time of implementation, and to address the goals, objectives and strategies of the 17 regional focuses;

1. THANKS the Regional Director for his comprehensive presentation on the current method of developing the programme budget and for taking into account the views and concerns expressed by the Regional Committee during its review of Part 2 of the proposed programme budget at its fifty-first session;

2. URGES Member States to work with WHO to make every effort to implement the programme budget;

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director to ensure that the Regional Committee's views and concerns as noted in the summary record are fully taken into account in the implementation of the programme budget for 2002-2003.

Fourth meeting, 12 September 2001
WPR/RC52/SR/4

WPR/RC52.R2 FOOD SAFETY

The Regional Committee,

Recalling resolution WHA53.15, which requested the Director-General to give greater emphasis to food safety;

Recalling also that food safety was one of the eleven priorities identified in the general programme of work, 2002-2005, approved by the Fifty-fourth World Health Assembly in resolution WHA54.1;

Having considered the draft regional strategy for food safety;²

¹ Document WPR/RC52/4.
² Document WPR/RC52/6.