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PROPOSED PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF EUROPEAN
REGIONAL TARGETS FOR HEALTH FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000

At its thirty-third session in Madrid, the Regional Committee adopted a resolution (EUR/RC33/R4) requesting the Regional Director to submit a final version of the regional target document to the thirty-fourth session of the Regional Committee, together with a plan of action and a list of indicators.

In response to this request, this document proposes the plan of action for the attainment of the regional targets formulated in document ICP/EXM 001/m01/5. It specifically lists a series of actions to be undertaken respectively by Member States, the Regional Committee and other governing bodies as well as the Secretariat of the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

The document recognizes that the main action will need to be undertaken by the countries themselves. It also stresses the responsibilities of the Regional Committee and other governing bodies in monitoring the implementation of the regional strategy, in evaluating the progress made in attaining the regional targets and in revising the course of action if necessary. It links the development and the endorsement of the EURO contribution to the General Programme of Work and the Biennium Programme Budget to the support needed for the implementation of the regional strategy and the attainment of the targets. Finally, it identifies immediate action that the Secretariat may undertake to support countries, the Regional Committee and other governing bodies in the execution of their share in this plan of action.

This document must be considered as provisional and will be amended in the light of comments from the RHDAC and CGPD before its final submission to the thirty-fourth session of the Regional Committee.



1. Introduction

This plan of action is an operational continuation of the regional strategy and the regional target documents in the sense that it indicates who shares the main responsibility of undertaking what action, by what date.

Its aim is threefold:

- first, to provide guidelines for countries to formulate their own plans of action for the development and implementation of their national health-for-all strategies;
- second, together with the list of indicators, to constitute a tool for the Regional Committee and other governing bodies to monitor the implementation of the regional strategy and evaluate the attainment of the regional targets;
- third, to link together, even more closely, the contribution of this Office to the General Programme of Work of WHO, as well as the allocation of its resources suggested in the Biennium Programme Budget; to the support needed by Member States and governing bodies of this Office in carrying out their share of this plan of action.

2. Actors

This Plan of Action addresses itself to the three actors who, within the context of this Organization, share the main responsibility for initiating activities for the implementation of the regional strategy and the attainment of the regional targets: (a) Member States individually and through intercountry cooperation; (b) the Regional Committee and, through it, the other advisory bodies of this Office; and (c) the Regional Director and, through him, the entire Secretariat of the Regional Office for Europe.

2.1 Member States

It has been strongly emphasized, both in the regional strategy and regional target documents, that most of the action needed to reach health for all in Europe fall, individually or collectively, within the responsibility of Member States.

This plan of action stresses three types of action that may be undertaken by Member States.

- (1) To determine, through the formulation of their own national health-for-all priorities, targets and strategies, the extent of their contribution to the attainment of the regional targets.
- (2) To review their national machineries in health-for-all priority areas and to revise them if necessary, so as to bring them more into line with and supportive of their own national strategy.

Ten priority areas are identified in this plan of action. Their listing below reflects only the time sequence of the plan, not their relative importance in the target document:

- managerial process and health information
- primary health care development
- quality of care assurance and health technology assessment
- health personnel
- health research
- policies affecting lifestyles
- health education
- policies ensuring the prerequisites for health
- health environment
- support for social groups whose activities influence health.

- (3) To report at intervals to the Regional Committee on the progress made in implementing their own national strategy and reaching their own national targets.

In May 1982, the thirty-fifth World Health Assembly approved the plan of action for implementing the global strategy for health for all (resolution WHA35.23). In so doing, the World Health Assembly requested the Regional Committee to monitor every two years, starting in 1983, the implementation of the regional strategy and to evaluate every six years, beginning in 1985, the effectiveness of the strategy in reaching the targets.

2.2 Regional Committee

The main responsibilities of the Regional Committee and, through it, of other advisory bodies of this Organization, are:

- first, based on the reports by Member States, to monitor every two years the implementation of the regional strategy and evaluate, every six years, its effectiveness in reaching the regional targets;
- second, as necessary, to update the regional plan of action, strategy and targets;
- third, to submit proposals, every six years for the EURO contribution to the General Programme of Work and every two years for the Biennium Programme Budgets, which fully support the implementation of national and regional strategies and the attainment of national and regional targets.

2.3 Regional Office of WHO

The main responsibility of the Regional Office is to support fully Member States and governing bodies in carrying out their respective shares in this plan of action.

This support is outlined in general terms in the EURO contribution to the General Programmes of Work, and in more detail in the Biennial Programme Budgets. This plan of action contains only major elements directly related to actions to be undertaken by Member States and the Regional Committee in connection with the efforts required to reach the regional targets for HFA. Some more elements will be added to the "EURO secretariat" column after the RHDAC.

3. Future amendments of the plan of action

The plan of action will have to be amended in the light of the progress that Member States make in their HFA development; a progress that can be influenced by many factors. It would, therefore, seem logical to update the plan of action as a result of the evaluation of the HFA strategy development which will take place every six years.

PLAN OF ACTION

Date	Member States	EURO governing bodies	EURO secretariat
<u>1984</u>			
Sept. 1984		Thirty-fourth Regional Committee to review and endorse: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- regional target document- list of indicators- plan of action- 1986-87 Programme Budget	
<u>1985</u>	Review and revise as necessary national managerial process for HFA development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation while ensuring full community and multi-sectorial involvement (34) ^a Review national health information systems and adapt them, as necessary, to be fully supportive to the national managerial process and to cover at least the list of indicators agreed upon (34)		
March 1985	Submit evaluation report on effectiveness of regional strategy		
Sept. 1985		Thirty-fifth Regional Committee to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- review first assessment of effectiveness of regional strategy- update plan of action as necessary	Regional Director to submit report on first assessment of effectiveness of regional strategy
Dec. 1985		EACMR to submit a HFA regional research plan based on research priorities related to regional targets	
<u>1986</u>	Analyse national health situation and set national health priorities and targets Analyse and revise as necessary national HFA policy and strategy to ensure that they are in line with HFA principles (33)		

^a The number in parentheses refers to the target number to be reached by the proposed action.

Date	Member States	EURO governing bodies	EURO secretariat
March 1986	Submit report on national health priorities and targets		
Sept. 1986		<p>Thirty-sixth Regional Committee to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - review and endorse the 1988-89 Programme Budget - revise regional targets based on approved national health priorities and targets 	
<u>1987</u>	<p>Analyse their overall organizational pattern of health services deliveries and prepare a comprehensive national plan for development of PHC (26, 30)</p> <p>Assess and review as necessary national policy for quality of care and health technology assessment (31-38)</p>		<p>Prepare a draft protocol for the creation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European Health for All Research Fund - European Health for All Development Fund
March 1987	Submit monitoring report on implementation of national strategy		
Sept. 1987		<p>Thirty-seventh Regional Committee to:</p> <p>review the status of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European HFA Research Fund (32) - European HFA Development Fund 	
		<p>review report on monitoring implementation of the regional strategy and revise regional plan of action as necessary</p>	<p>Regional Director to submit a report on monitoring the implementation of the regional strategy</p>
<u>1988</u>	<p>Analyse health manpower development and adopt a comprehensive national plan for health manpower development which is in line with the national HFA strategy (36-37)</p>		

Date	Member States	EURO governing bodies	EURO secretariat
	<p>Develop national HFA 2000 research plan that gives priority to major areas where knowledge is lacking to reach their national targets (32)</p> <p>Review national public policies that affect lifestyle and revise them as necessary to make healthy lifestyles the easier lifestyles to choose (13)</p>		
Sept. 1988		<p>Thirty-eighth Regional Committee to endorse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the regional contribution to the 8th General Programme of Work- the EURO 1990-91 Programme Budget	
<u>1989</u>	<p>Analyse and review, if necessary, public policies related to income security, employment, housing, food and education so as to eliminate pockets of poverty and areas of deprivation and give preferential treatment and special support to the most needy, so as to provide equal opportunities for all to develop, maintain and fully use their health (Chapter 1)</p> <p>Review health education programmes and revise them, if necessary, so as to reinforce basic aspects of the national strategy</p>		
March 1989	<p>Submit a monitoring report on implementing national strategy</p>		
Sept. 1989		<p>Thirty-ninth Regional Committee to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- review the report on monitoring the implementation of regional strategies- revise the plan of action as necessary	<p>Regional Director to report on the monitoring of the regional strategy</p>

Date	Member States	EURO governing bodies	EURO secretariat
<u>1990</u>	<p>Review national health environment system and revise it if necessary so as to be fully supportive of their national strategy (18)</p> <p>Review programmes and practices with regard to social groups involved in lifestyles, environment and self-help issues and adopt policies and programmes, if necessary, to strengthen their action in priority areas of the national strategy (14)</p>		
March 1990	<p>Report on the national situation of programmes which have 1990 as target date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expanded programme of immunization - International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade 		
Sept. 1990		<p>Fortieth Regional Committee to:</p> <p>review the reports on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - expanded immunization programme - International Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Decade <p>approve the 1992-93 Programme Budget</p>	<p>To submit report on the regional situation on reaching global targets related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EIP - IWD
<u>1991</u>			
March 1991	<p>Submit evaluation report on effectiveness of national strategies and degree of attainment of national targets</p>		
Sept. 1991		<p>Forty-first Regional Committee to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - review the evaluation report on the effectiveness of the regional strategies and degree of attainment of regional targets 	<p>Regional Director to submit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - report on effectiveness of regional strategy and degree of attainment of regional targets

Date	Member States	EURO governing bodies	EURO secretariat
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- revise as necessary the regional strategy, targets and plan of action

1992

Sept. 1992

Forty-second Regional Committee to:

- adopt the 1994-95 Programme Budget

1993

Sept. 1993