



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

**World Health  
Organization**  
**Africa**

**AFR/RC52/R5**

10 October 2002

**REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA**

**ORIGINAL: ENGLISH**

Fifty-second session

Harare, Zimbabwe, 8–12 October 2002

## **RESOLUTION**

### **HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTH: ACCELERATING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL STRATEGY**

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the report of the Regional Director on the implementation of the regional strategy on the development of human resources for health;

Cognizant of the importance of human resources in the provision of quality health care and in the successful implementation of health sector reforms;

Recalling resolution AFR/RC48/R3 adopting the regional strategy for the development of human resources for health, and resolution WHA54.12 of the World Health Assembly on strengthening nursing and midwifery;

Noting with concern the low level of implementation of the strategy;

Deeply concerned about the high level of brain drain and migration and their negative effects on health services in the Region;

Aware of the need to have a more comprehensive and multisectoral approach for addressing issues regarding human resources for health;

Appreciating the efforts made by Member States and partners to properly address issues regarding human resources for health;

Appreciating the support provided by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union through the decision AHG/Dec.24/XXXVIII on “Development of human resources for health in Africa: Challenges and opportunities for action”;

1. APPROVES the accelerated implementation of the development of human resources for health as proposed in document AFR/RC52/13;
2. COMMENDS the Regional Director for supporting the development of human resources for health;

3. URGES Member States:

- (a) to give high priority to the development of human resources for health, including mobilizing and allocating more financial resources, valuing health workers and recognizing their professional worth, and put more emphasis on issues of management of human resources for health such as employment policies, development of flexible career paths, fostering motivation and retention and adopting appropriate legislation;
- (b) to accelerate the implementation of the regional strategy for the development of human resources for health according to resolution AFR/RC48/R3 and to take account of additional orientations contained in document AFR/RC52/13;
- (c) to encourage negotiation by the World Health Assembly of an international convention on the recruitment of health workers from developing countries;
- (d) to make appropriate preparations for marking the African Year on Human Resources for Health in 2004;

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to exercise leadership in forging and coordinating partnerships for the development of human resources for health, including continuing advocacy and support for marking the African Year on Human Resources for Health in 2004 and organization of a Special Summit of African Union Heads of State and Government;
- (b) to strengthen collaboration with partners such as the International Organization on Migration to facilitate the use of African expertise in the diaspora and support Member States in assisting health workers who choose to return;
- (c) to report every two years on the progress made in the implementation of the regional strategy for the development of human resources for health.

*Sixth meeting, 10 October 2002*