



**World Health
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REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Africa**

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REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

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RESOLUTION

REGIONAL STRATEGY ON NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES IN THE WHO AFRICAN REGION (Document AFR/RC63/10)

The Regional Committee,

Having examined the document entitled “Regional Strategy on Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) in the WHO African Region” and the related Regional NTD strategic plan 2014–2020;

Recalling the commitment that ministers of health of Member States of the African Region made during the Fifty-ninth session of the Regional Committee, the sixth Conference of African Union Ministers of Health, as well as resolution WHA 66.12 on scaling up proven interventions against the major NTDs;

Cognizant that the African Region bears a very high burden of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) which pose a threat especially to the poorest and most marginalized communities and hamper socioeconomic development;

Acknowledging the increasing regional and national momentum to control and eliminate NTDs, which was reinforced by the Accra Urgent Call to Action on NTDs and the Recommendations of the Brazzaville Regional Consultative Meeting on NTDs;

Mindful of the need to rapidly increase the pace of progress towards the expected targets and goals and to quickly mobilize the multisectoral and collective actions required to scale up NTD programme interventions;

1. **ADOPTS** the “Regional Strategy on Neglected Tropical Diseases in the WHO African Region”; and the “Regional Strategic Plan for NTDs in the African Region 2014–2020”, as a way of implementing the WHO global roadmap on NTDs and the World Health Assembly resolution WHA 66.12 on NTDs;

2. URGES Member States:

- (a) to provide leadership and ensure ownership in establishing and strengthening integrated national NTD programmes and national NTD coordination mechanisms, while forging multisectoral collaboration to address functional gaps that constrain programme interventions, and promoting linkages between NTDs and other health programmes;
- (b) to strengthen planning and increase national financial commitments to achieving NTD targets and goals by including national NTD multi-year budgets into the national health sector budget, and promote the inclusion of NTDs in the post-2015 national development agenda;
- (c) to rapidly scale up interventions and strengthen health systems to tackle NTDs at all levels and ensure regular monitoring and tracking of progress;
- (d) to expand investment in research and development of medical products and the strategies to tackle NTDs;

3. URGES partners:

- (a) to mobilize increased resources including medicines, funds and logistics and confirm long-term commitments to country NTD programmes, aligning their support with national priorities and NTD coordination mechanisms and structures;
- (b) to collaborate with WHO to strengthen regional NTD coordination mechanisms, capacity building for national NTD programmes, and in monitoring and accountability for results;

4. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

- (a) to promote intercountry cooperation, facilitate collaboration among the major stakeholders and strengthen regional coordination mechanisms and structures;
- (b) to undertake advocacy with international development partners, medicine donors, nongovernmental development organizations, and the private sector for increased support for national NTD programmes in the Region;
- (c) to provide technical support to Member States and promote intercountry exchanges of best practices;
- (d) to report to the Regional Committee in 2015 on the progress made in implementing the regional strategy and its related resolution, and every two years thereafter.