PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET 2014–2015

The Regional Committee,

Acknowledging that the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly in May 2013 approved the Programme Budget 2014–2015 as a primary instrument to express the planned scope of technical work of the Organization, along with planned budgetary allocations;

Noting that the approved Programme Budget 2014–2015 is the first biennial budget of the Twelfth General Programme of Work, and is structured around Categories and Programme Areas, as detailed in the Annex of A66/7;

Reaffirming its concern that the South-East Asia Region has seen a reduction of 11.5% in budget space for the 2014–2015 biennium compared with the 2012–2013 biennium;

Reaffirming further its concern with the methodology in which the first nine months of expenditure data from the biennium 2012–2013 were used as the basis to develop the Programme Budget 2014–2015;

Considering that the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly approved an integrated budget, authorizing the Director-General to use the assessed contributions (AC) together with voluntary contributions (VC), subject to the availability of resources, to finance the Programme Budget 2014–2015 as approved;

Noting that this integrated budget does not distinguish between assessed and voluntary contributions for the Programme Budget 2014–2015;

Reaffirming that emergencies remain a concern in the South-East Asia Region and that the South-East Asia Region Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) is vital in providing immediate financial support for health interventions during these emergencies;
Endorsing the report and the recommendations of the Sixth Meeting of the Subcommittee on Policy and Programme Development and Management (SPPDM),

1. URGES Member States:

   (1) to conduct country-level review of the programme areas to establish focused priorities in preparation for the 2014-2015 biennial budget;

   (2) to monitor the budget space allocation needs within the categories and programme areas, both during operational planning and implementation, with a view to matching resources to areas of highest programmatic need;

   (3) to collaborate on technical work of regional importance, seeking improved management and optimum utilization of available resources;

   (4) to strengthen programme management capacities with the objective of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of implementation;

2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

   (1) to ensure efficient management of the budget for the Region, through appropriate consultations with Member States, in light of the budget allocation, in a manner that aligns the budget with priority programme areas as reflected by the Member States of the Region;

   (2) to convey to the Director-General the South-East Asia Region's requirements for adjustments in budget allocations, in consultation with Member States if necessary;

   (3) to convey to the Director-General that additional flexible voluntary contributions for the South-East Asia Region must be linked to the disease burden and priorities of the Member States in the Region;

   (4) to support the mobilization of voluntary contributions, especially to support countries and programmes that have been unable to achieve full funding of their workplans;

   (5) to communicate actual budget figures for assessed and voluntary contributions by category, for country offices and regional offices, to Member States as soon as possible after the November 2013 Financing Dialogue.

Sixth session, 13 September 2013