Agenda item 5.5 1 November 2024

## **Poliomyelitis Eradication**

The Second GMWHO World Health Assembly,

Recalling the 37th RCC report, the 16th meeting of SEA-RCCPE, WHA71.16 (2018), and the WHA's 1988 commitment to eradicate poliomyelitis;

Calling upon the international community to intensify efforts to achieve polio eradication through global collaboration, as wild polio is currently endemic in two countries (Afghanistan and Pakistan), and vaccine-derived polio remains a major challenge with regional and global outbreaks;

Recalling the importance of member states, and NGOs commitment to prioritize financial and humanitarian aid to eradicate polio with special consideration to endemic areas and conflict zones;

Stressing on the urgent need for accessible polio vaccination to prevent outbreaks by supporting scientific monitoring, and strengthening vaccine supply chains to ensure eradication regardless of socioeconomic or regional disparities, particularly in conflict zones and remote regions;

Acting with respect to established vaccine guidelines, to ensure providers worldwide are aware of the spread of misinformation and polio vaccine hesitancy to optimize global eradication efforts;

Recognizing the importance of financial oversight and accountability mechanisms to ensure that funds allocated for polio eradication are effectively managed, transparently utilized, and focused towards high-impact areas,

## 1. URGES all Member States:

(1) to collaborate with state and local levels on evidence-based educational campaigns and inclusive media strategies tailored to cultural and geo-political contexts to enhance public awareness and reach all individuals;

- (2) to reduce disparities in vaccination access and integrate polio eradication into existing vaccination programs to ensure comprehensive health coverage;
- (3) to reach marginalized and vulnerable communities, including refugees and populations in remote and unsafe areas, by establishing community-based engagement approaches and training local healthcare professionals to deliver effective care;
- (4) to optimize poliovirus surveillance by streamlining data sharing of the Global Polio Laboratory Network to produce a unified system and cross-border cooperation for rapid containment and response efforts;
- (5) to provide containment annual reports for their respective nations to the National and Regional Certificate Committees;
- (6) to increase sustainable government funding for poliomyelitis and seek additional support from public and private organizations for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative;
- 2. CALLS UPON international organizations, public health institutions and relevant stakeholders:
  - (1) to strengthen partnerships with local communities and healthcare professionals, providing public education and transparency in research initiatives;
  - (2). to implement partnerships amongst governments, other relevant stakeholders, UN agencies, and civil society to ensure equitable distribution of vaccines and sustainable funding in order to promote safe vaccine practices and technology;
  - (3) to promote research and health initiatives through polio surveillance technologies, updating guidelines, collaboration of research teams, and creating public education programs;
  - (4) to identify unvaccinated and low-immunized individuals, especially in conflict zones and remote regions by implementing a community-based engagement approach, and designing adaptive vaccination strategies to achieve equitable access;
  - (5) to support the WHA71.16(2018) establishing laboratory guidelines that address biohazards concerns on research and the storage of biological matter following research guidelines;

- (6) to enhance the capacity of frontline workers, including cross-cultural communication skills, thereby ensuring the efficiency of vaccination and health promotion activities;
- (7) to recognize the significance of utilising current infrastructure for poliomyelitis and building resilient healthcare systems;

## 3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) to remind member states of the risk of re-emergence in polio-free countries, recognizing the crucial role of international cooperation;
- (2) to support health campaigns and hygiene workshops by means of collaboration with governmental and non-governmental organizations, in addition to using mass media to promote poliovirus prevention;
- (3) to collaborate with relevant external organizations in order to solidify the existing strategy of polio eradication;
- (4) to commit to annual actions plans and optimizing international collaborations;
- (5) to promote equitable access to polio vaccinations, thus achieving high levels of global immunization.