SEA/RC60/R3 NUTRITION AND FOOD SAFETY IN THE SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION

The Regional Committee,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions WHA33.32, WHA49.13, WHA52.24, and WHA57.17 and other resolutions on infant and young child nutrition, appropriate feeding practices and related questions, and particularly resolution WHA53.15 on food safety, which urges integration of food safety into the essential public health and public nutrition functions,

Also recalling its own resolution SEA/RC57/R4 on Iodine Deficiency Disorders in the South-East Asia Region, SEA/RC56/R8 on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Determinants of Health and SEA/RC53/R7 on Food Safety,

Recognizing that the simultaneous presence of both malnutrition and infection results in an interaction that has more serious consequences for the host than the additive effect would be if the two worked independently,

Concerned that nutritional disorders and foodborne diseases remain a major threat to the health and development of populations in the South-East Asia Region, and by recent foodborne disease outbreaks, both globally and in the Region,

Recognizing that both malnutrition and unsafe food are a major challenge to the attainment of MDGs in the Region, and

Having considered the report and recommendations of the Technical Discussions on Nutrition and Food Safety in the South-East Asia Region, held in New Delhi during 11-13 April 2007,

1. **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained in the report (SEA/RC60/5 and SEA/RC60/5 Inf.Doc.);

2. **URGES** Member States to implement the recommendations of the Technical Discussions; and

3. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director:

   (a) to support Member States in further strengthening efforts in the area of nutrition and food safety, and

   (b) to support monitoring and reporting of progress in implementation and on the status of National Nutrition and Food Safety Policy and Plans of Action in the Region to the sixty-third session of the Regional Committee in 2010.