

# RESOLUTION

## OF THE

### WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA

**SEA/RC67/R3**

## **TRADITIONAL MEDICINE: DELHI DECLARATION**

The Regional Committee,

Having considered the Delhi Declaration on Traditional Medicine adopted on 13 February 2013 by the 11 Member States of the WHO South-East Asia Region,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions WHA22.54, WHA29.72, WHA30.49, WHA31.33, WHA40.33, WHA41.19, WHA42.43, WHA 44.34, WHA54.11, WHA56.31, WHA61.21 and WHA62.13, and in particular Regional Committee resolution SEA/RC56/R6 on traditional systems of medicine which requested the Regional Director to assist Member States in developing/strengthening national policies, strategies and plans of action on traditional systems of medicine,

Acknowledging the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014–2023 that was endorsed in World Health Assembly resolution WHA67.18,

Recognizing that traditional medicine and traditional medicine practitioners have substantial potential to contribute to improving health outcomes in Member States of the South-East Asia Region,

Recognizing that some Member States in the South-East Asia Region are poised, within country for specific types of traditional medicine, to pursue a harmonized approach towards education, practice, research, documentation and regulation of traditional medicine, and

Noting that the International Conference on Traditional Medicine for Member States of the South-East Asia Region took place on 12–14 February 2013 and the Delhi Declaration on Traditional Medicine adopted on 13 February 2013,

1. URGES Member States:

- (a) to consider implementing the Delhi Declaration on Traditional Medicine 2013 in accordance with national capacities, priorities, relevant legislation and circumstances, as follows:
- (i) promoting national policies, strategies and interventions for equitable development and appropriate use of traditional medicine in the health-care delivery system;
  - (ii) developing institutionalized mechanisms for exchange of information, expertise and knowledge on traditional medicine with the active cooperation of WHO through workshops, symposia, visits of experts, exchange of literature etc.;
  - (iii) pursuing a harmonized approach for the education, practice, research, documentation and regulation of traditional medicine and involvement of traditional medicine practitioners in health services;
  - (iv) exploring the possibility of promoting mutual recognition of educational qualifications awarded by recognized universities, pharmacopoeias, monographs and relevant databases of traditional medicine;
  - (v) encouraging the development of common reference documents on traditional medicine for Member States of the South-East Asia Region;
  - (vi) developing regional cooperation for training and capacity-building of traditional medicine experts;
  - (vii) encouraging sustainable development and resource augmentation of medicinal plants in Member States of the South-East Asia Region;
  - (viii) establishing regional centres as required for capacity-building and networking in the areas of traditional medicine and medicinal plants, and
  - (ix) exchanging views, experiences and experts for integration of traditional medicine into national health systems in accordance with national policies and regulations.
- (b) to adapt and implement the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014–2023 taking into account national capacities, priorities and legislation;

- (c) to integrate, as appropriate, traditional medicine into the mainstream health-care systems in order to contribute to universal health coverage; and
  - (d) to strengthen systems, particularly pharmacovigilance systems, to ensure that all available traditional medicine products meet safety, efficacy and quality standards.
2. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
- (a) to support Member States, as appropriate, in implementing the Delhi Declaration on Traditional Medicine and the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023;
  - (b) to support Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen systems, particularly pharmacovigilance systems, to ensure that all available traditional medicine products meet safety, efficacy and quality standards;
  - (c) to allocate adequate funds in accordance with the WHO Programme Budget towards implementation of the Delhi Declaration on Traditional Medicine and the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014–2023 in Member States of the South-East Asia Region;
  - (d) to provide policy and technical guidance in the promotion of traditional medicine on harmonized lines for each type of traditional medicine in the Region; and
  - (e) to report on the progress of the implementation of WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014–2023 to the Seventy-second and Seventy-seventh sessions of the Regional Committee for South-East Asia in 2019 and 2024.

Sixth session, 12 September 2014