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Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

Africa

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REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

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Seventieth session – Resumed session

Virtual session, 24 November 2020

Outcome of the Written Silence Procedure

Information Document

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BACKGROUND

1. On 25 August 2020, the Seventieth session of the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Committee for Africa adopted resolution AFR/RC70/R1 on a written silence procedure. Following the suspension of the Seventieth Regional Committee and pending its resumption on 24 November 2020, the written silence procedure was adopted to apply in respect of any report(s) and their accompanying resolutions previously reviewed by the Programme Subcommittee of the Regional Committee and considered by the Programme Subcommittee of the Regional Committee to be suitable for adoption without further discussion by the Regional Committee, as well as any report and/or resolution as determined by the Chairperson of the Regional Committee in consultation with the WHO Regional Director for Africa and considered suitable for adoption without further discussion by the Regional Committee.

PROGRESS MADE/ACTION TAKEN

2. On 14 September 2020, the WHO Regional Director for Africa sent to Member States the Note R4/48/4 (70)-virt, listing all the reports and documents to be considered under the written silence procedure. Member States were invited to signal in writing, by 28 September 2020, any objection to the adoption of any of these documents.

3. The Regional Director did not receive any objections within the set deadline, hence the following documents are considered as having been validly adopted by the Regional Committee:

- (a) Document AFR/RC70/4 - Fifth Progress Report on the implementation of the Transformation Agenda of the World Health Organization Secretariat in the African Region: 2015–2020
- (b) Document AFR/RC70/17 - Transforming for enhanced impact
- (c) Document AFR/RC70/5 - Strengthening country presence to deliver universal health coverage in Africa
- (d) Document AFR/RC70/7 - Certification of wild poliovirus eradication in the African Region and sustaining the gains, post-certification
- (e) Document AFR/RC70/8 - Ensuring implementation of national polio transition plans in the African Region
- (f) Document AFR/RC70/9 - Quality, equity and dignity in health services delivery in the WHO African Region: Bridging the quality gap to accelerate progress towards meeting the SDG targets for maternal, newborn and child health
- (g) Document AFR/RC70/10 - Framework for the implementation of the Global action plan on physical activity 2018–2030 in the WHO African Region
- (h) Document AFR/RC70/11- Strategy for scaling up health innovations in the WHO African Region and the accompanying resolution contained in Document AFR/RC70/WP3
- (i) Document AFR/RC70/12 - Status of human organ and tissue donation and transplantation in the WHO African Region
- (j) Document AFR/RC70/13 - Report on the performance of health systems in the WHO African Region
- (k) Document AFR/RC70/14 - Draft global patient safety action plan for Member State consultation

- (l) Document AFR/RC70/INF.DOC/1 - Progress report on the implementation of the Global strategy and plan of action on ageing and health 2016–2030
- (m) Document AFR/RC70/INF.DOC/2 - Progress report on the implementation of the Regional strategy on enhancing the role of traditional medicines in health systems 2013–2023
- (n) Document AFR/RC70/INF.DOC/3 - Progress in the implementation of the African Region sickle-cell disease strategy 2010–2020
- (o) Document AFR/RC70/INF.DOC/4 - Progress report on utilizing eHealth solutions to improve national health systems in the WHO African Region
- (p) Document AFR/RC70/INF.DOC/5 - Progress report on the implementation of resolution AFR/RC62/R5 on the African Health Observatory
- (q) Document AFR/RC70/INF.DOC/6 - Report on WHO Staff in the African Region
- (r) Document AFR/RC70/INF.DOC/7 - Regional matters arising from reports of WHO internal and external audits.

4. On 6 October 2020, through a Note Verbale, the Regional Director communicated to Member States the outcome of the written silence procedure. Pursuant to paragraph 6 of the Annex to Resolution AFR/RC70/R1, 6 October 2020 is therefore regarded as the date of adoption of the above-mentioned documents.

NEXT STEPS

5. The outcome of the written silence procedure is hereby referred to the Regional Committee at its resumed Seventieth session on 24 November 2020 for information only.