

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

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## RESOLUTION

### KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT IN THE WHO AFRICAN REGION: STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS (document AFR/RC56/16)

The Regional Committee,

Recalling resolution WHA58.28 on e-Health;

Aware of the importance of knowledge management for improvement of national health system performance;

Recalling the WHO *Eleventh General Programme of Work* and the *Strategic orientations for WHO action in the African Region 2005–2009*;

Considering the Plan of Action and Declaration of the World Summit on the Information Society, as well as the orientations of the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) on the development of information and communication technology;

Cognizant of the opportunities provided by the efficient use of information and communication technology in all health development areas;

Noting the many national or regional initiatives in the areas of knowledge management and e-Health;

Having examined the document presented by the Regional Director on knowledge management;

1. APPROVES the strategic directions proposed by the Regional Director for health knowledge management;
2. URGES Member States:
  - (a) to prepare national strategic directions for knowledge management, including e-Health, ensuring that they are integrated as a priority into their national health policies and plans;
  - (b) to establish norms and standards, including ethical ones, taking into account new technology and approaches to knowledge management;
  - (c) to strengthen national capacity in knowledge management;
  - (d) to include the health sector in national information and communication technology development plans;
  - (e) to build sustainable partnerships, and allocate and mobilize the resources needed to improve knowledge management at all levels of the health sector;
3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:
  - (a) to continue advocacy for knowledge management as a key approach to strengthening health systems;
  - (b) to make available generic guidelines, norms and standards for knowledge management;
  - (c) to provide technical support to Member States for the development and implementation of national policies and plans;
  - (d) to strengthen partnerships at the regional level, in particular with the African Union, NEPAD and regional economic communities;
  - (e) to report every other year to the Regional Committee on progress in the implementation of this resolution.