



**REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA**

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**SEVENTH GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON HEALTH PROMOTION IN 2009**

1. As a discipline, health promotion fully emerged in the last two decades. During this time, most countries adopted health promotion as a means of increasing individual and collective participation in health action. A report reflecting the latest developments in health promotion, and especially the recently developed Bangkok Charter on Health Promotion in a Globalized World, was submitted to the one-hundred-and-seventeenth session of the Executive Board.
2. The Executive Board recommended a resolution, “Health promotion in a globalized world,” for consideration by the Fifty-ninth World Health Assembly. The resolution calls on countries to increase investment in health promotion as an essential component of social and economic development. The resolution was reviewed by the WHA.
3. To enable technical discussion and consensus-building on the global health promotion agenda, WHO, in conjunction with partners, has so far organized six global consecutive conferences in Ottawa, Adelaide, Sundsvall, Jakarta, Mexico and Bangkok. The WHO African Region’s participation at these conferences was only peripheral until 2000 when a sizeable number of participants from the Region attended the Mexico conference.
4. The health promotion conference in Bangkok, August 2005, involved about seven hundred participants, with 70 of them from the WHO African Region. Participants came from the health, education, justice, finance, social services and other sectors, as well as civil society and the private sector.
5. During the Bangkok Conference, regional participants, with WHO Regional Office guidance, lobbied successfully for the next (seventh) Global Conference on Health Promotion, scheduled for 2009, to be held in the African Region.
6. Kenya submitted a formal request to host the conference. During discussion about which country to host the Global Conference on Health Research, Kenya (which had been shortlisted for hosting that conference) offered instead to host the seventh Global Conference on Health Promotion in 2009 (see paragraph 195 of the final report of the fifty-fifth session of the Regional Committee). A decision on this venue was deferred to the fifty-sixth session of the Regional Committee for Africa.
7. Preparations for the conference are now on hold, pending confirmation of the host country. After confirmation, there is a need for exploratory visits to the proposed country to assess capacity in terms of facilities, travel, local organizing teams and willingness to contribute resources for the meeting.
8. The Regional Committee is requested to consider the offer made by Kenya and decide on the country that will host the Seventh Global Conference on Health Promotion in 2009.