The Executive Board,

Reiterating its support for resolution WHA28.72;

Having considered the reports of the Programme Committee and of the Director-General on the subject of blood and blood products;

Recognizing the technical, managerial, financial and ethical complexities of the situation, particularly in developing countries;

Stressing the importance for Member States of developing national policies to ensure the timely and adequate supply of safe blood and blood products to all in need, and of using blood and blood products rationally as appropriate to their country situation;

Pointing out the utility of making optimal use to this end of the technical and managerial information to be found in the relevant WHO publications;

REQUESTS the Director-General:

1. to support Member States, and in particular developing countries, in developing national policies for blood and blood products and in using them rationally;

2. to update and make available to Member States, through appropriate WHO publications, valid information on technological developments related to blood, blood products and blood substitutes, and on appropriate and cost-effective ways of organizing blood transfusion services;

3. to continue close collaboration with the appropriate nongovernmental organizations in supporting Member States in this field;

4. to study the world situation further, and to report back to the Board on the implementation of this resolution.