The Fiftieth World Health Assembly,

Deeply concerned at the severity of the African trypanosomiasis problem and the danger of epidemics in a number of countries on the African continent;

Well aware that this disease causes death and impedes development, reduces productivity, and affects family, community and State structures;

Recognizing that the disease is curable but that Member States are experiencing a shortage of human, material and financial resources to combat it;

Welcoming WHO’s initiative for global collaboration and consideration of action in support of sustainable agricultural development in the context of socioeconomic development,

1. **URGES** all Member States in endemic areas to reinforce control and surveillance activities and coordinate their actions through a joint OAU/FAO/IAEA/WHO project for global collaboration and coordination of action;

2. **REQUESTS** the Director-General:

   (1) to bring the problem to the attention of the international and national development agencies, emphasizing the need to mobilize further resources and provide substantial and sustained support for effective collaboration;

   (2) to expand and intensify the coordination of control and surveillance and the development of human resources, and reinforce its links with FAO and OAU, and other international agencies including UNICEF;

   (3) to ensure that WHO is able to maintain a sufficient stock of equipment and supplies, in particular drugs and diagnostic reagents, to manage emergencies;
(4) to increase awareness among policy-makers, decision-makers, health personnel, development agencies and communities about the problem and the means for its solution, considering the declaration of an African Trypanosomiasis Day as one possible approach.

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