PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

The Regional Committee,

Recalling commitments by the Regional Committee in 2015 to promote universal health coverage (WPR/RC66.R2) and the World Health Assembly in 2019 to promote primary health care (WHA72.2);

Affirming that primary health care (PHC) provides the best approach to ensure the sustainability of health systems and is essential to make progress towards universal health coverage, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Western Pacific’s vision for health presented in For the Future: Towards the Healthiest and Safest Region;

Deeply concerned that individuals and households continue to face financial hardship with one in five people pushed into poverty due to health expenses, and that inequitable access to care persists in the Region;

Recognizing the need to move towards a new approach to primary health care that provides comprehensive people-centred services with continuous engagement throughout the life course,

1. ENDORSES the Regional Framework on the Future of Primary Health Care in the Western Pacific;
2. URGES Member States:

(1) to use the Regional Framework as a guide to strengthen primary health-care systems, according to their context and capacity, and tailored to their needs and priorities;

(2) to foster high-level commitment and intersectoral collaboration among government agencies and other stakeholders, in support of a coordinated approach around primary health care at all levels;

(3) to invest adequate resources for primary health-care reform;

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director:

(1) to provide technical support for Member States to put into effect national policies and plans in line with the Regional Framework;

(2) to facilitate collaboration and sharing of knowledge, experiences, lessons and innovations on primary health care among Member States;

(3) to report periodically on progress in the implementation of the *Regional Framework on the Future of Primary Health Care in the Western Pacific*.

Sixth meeting, 27 October 2022