Promoting the health of refugees and migrants

The Seventieth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on promoting the health of refugees and migrants,¹ and following decision EB140(9) (2017);

Recalling resolution WHA61.17 (2008) on the health of migrants and reaffirming the health-related commitments made within the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants;²

Recalling the need for international cooperation to support countries hosting refugees, and recognizing the efforts of the countries hosting and receiving large populations of refugees and migrants,

1. NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the framework of priorities and guiding principles to promote the health of refugees and migrants;

2. URGES Member States,³ in accordance with their national context, priorities, and legal frameworks:

(1) to consider promoting the framework of priorities and guiding principles, as appropriate, at global, regional and country levels including using it to inform discussions among Member States and partners engaged in the development of the global compact on refugees and the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration;

(2) to identify and collect evidence-based information, best practices and lessons learned in addressing the health needs of refugees and migrants in order to contribute to the development of a draft global action plan on promoting the health of refugees and migrants;

(3) to strengthen international cooperation on the health of refugees and migrants in line with paragraphs 11 and 68 and other relevant paragraphs of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants;

(4) to consider providing necessary health-related assistance through bilateral and international cooperation to those countries hosting and receiving large populations of refugees and migrants;

¹ Document A70/24.
² See United Nations General Assembly resolution 71/1 (2016).
³ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.
3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

   (1) to use the framework of priorities and guiding principles to increase advocacy at all levels to promote the health of refugees and migrants, as appropriate;

   (2) to develop, reinforce and maintain the necessary capacities to provide health leadership and to provide support to Member States and partners in promoting the health of refugees and migrants in close collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, UNHCR, other international organizations and relevant stakeholders, avoiding duplication;

   (3) to identify best practices, experiences and lessons learned on the health of refugees and migrants in each region, in order to contribute to the development of a draft global action plan on the health of refugees and migrants to be considered for adoption by the Seventy-second World Health Assembly, and to report thereon to the Health Assembly;

   (4) to submit to the Seventy-first and Seventy-second World Health Assemblies a report on progress of the implementation of this resolution.

Tenth plenary meeting, 31 May 2017
A70/VR/10