

The Eighteenth World Health Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Director-General on the present status of smallpox in the world, and the results achieved;¹

Noting with concern that, though some recently endemic countries have eradicated the disease as a result of well organized campaigns, progress in general is slow and major endemic foci remain in Asia, Africa and the Americas;

Noting that the Director-General has estimated that smallpox might be eradicated within ten years for an estimated international expenditure of from US \$23 500 000 to US \$31 000 000 in addition to the provision which the countries having endemic smallpox themselves can make;

Believing that strong reaffirmation of the intent to eradicate smallpox would present a challenge and a stimulus to the world to mobilize resources to achieve the objective, and that the support required is available within the international and national programmes devoted to world social and economic development; and

Recognizing the need to review the technical and administrative requirements of programmes, to ensure the extensive use of freeze-dried vaccine and the development of its production in endemic areas and to provide annually for the mass phase of the campaign up to 50 million doses of freeze-dried vaccine in addition to supplies locally produced or already being provided in bilateral agreements, or through voluntary contributions,

1. DECLARES the world-wide eradication of smallpox to be one of the major objectives of the Organization;
2. REQUESTS the countries having smallpox but no eradication programmes to initiate them and the countries with programmes to intensify them;
3. REQUESTS Member States to give the programme greater support than in the past and to provide the substantial contributions essential for its execution;
4. REQUESTS governments which carry on bilateral programmes of aid to include smallpox eradication in their programmes of assistance;
5. REQUESTS governments to take early steps to establish basic health services for the maintenance phase which would also serve for the eradication of other communicable diseases;
6. REQUESTS the Director-General to seek anew the necessary financial and other resources required to achieve world-wide smallpox eradication with special reference to resources that might be made available through voluntary contributions and bilateral programmes, as well as through programmes such as those of UNICEF and the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance; and
7. REQUESTS the Director-General to make available the increased amount of technical guidance and advisory services necessary to accelerate the programme as well as to assist countries in obtaining the necessary vaccine, transport and other equipment, and to report on the progress achieved to future sessions of the World Health Assembly.