

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EMR REGIONAL MEETING HELD IN WHO EMRO 18-20 MARCH, 2014

A. MEMBERS STATES

1. Develop a national eye health action plan by December 2014 based on a health systems framework to achieve universal eye health in line with the WHA resolution 66.4 "Towards universal eye health: a global action plan 2014-2019".
2. Obtain relevant available baseline information prior to the development of the national eye health action plan, which may include prevalence and causes of vision impairment, eye health services and resources.
3. Ensure wide consultation and involvement of all stakeholders in the development of the new national eye health action plan. This may include various departments of Ministry of Health, other governmental ministries or agencies, private sector, professional bodies, non-governmental organizations etc.
4. Engage WHO and EMR-IAPB in consultation and for technical support in the development of the new national eye health plan.
5. For countries that have already drafted the plan to approve it by Ministries of Health and allocate appropriate resources for its implementation.
6. Establish a mechanism for collating and synthesizing eye health information, within the existing health information system, that can be used for planning, monitoring and policy advocacy.
7. Produce an annual 'National State of Eye Health' report.
8. Strengthen the functioning of national eye health committees to ensure effective implementation of the new national eye health plan

B. WHO EMRO

1. Urge Member States to fulfill the requirements of the WHA resolution 66.4 "Towards universal eye health: a global action plan 2014-2019" to develop, resource and implement national plans to achieve universal eye health
2. Provide necessary technical support and information to Member States in development and implementation of national eye health action plans.
3. Monitor progress of Member States in the development and implementation of national eye health plans in collaboration with partners. This may include developing a regional repository of all the national eye health plans developed by Member States.

C. TO PARTNERS, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND COLLABORATING CENTRES

1. Assist and support countries in the consultation process and technical support to develop the national eye health action plan in collaboration with WHO.
2. Advocate to Member States to develop and implement the new national eye health action plan.
3. Provide support in training and development of an adequate workforce to meet the needs of the national eye health action plan.
4. Provide assistance to Ministries of Health to establish the prevalence and magnitude of blindness and vision impairment.
5. EMR-IAPB and Prevention of Blindness Union to produce a Regional State of Eye Health Report periodically.