

EB23.R71 Smallpox Eradication

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the financial, administrative and technical implications of a world-wide programme of smallpox eradication;

Noting :

- (1) that definite progress has been made in large areas of the world where eradication has been achieved after intensive vaccination campaigns;
- (2) that the disease still remains a serious problem in other areas especially concentrated in some important endemic foci from which smallpox may be reimported into other countries, threatening the life and health of their populations;
- (3) that sufficient information on the production and use of suitable smallpox vaccine is available;
- (4) that it has been demonstrated that eradication of smallpox from an endemic area can be accomplished by successfully vaccinating or revaccinating 80 per cent. of the population within a period of four to five years;
- (5) that in regard to the organization of a national campaign guide-lines are suggested; and

(6) that in regard to financial requirements of country programmes, sufficient information is not available to set out a detailed estimate of costs,

1. RECOMMENDS to those countries where the disease is still present
 - (a) to take the necessary steps to ensure the provision of a potent and stable vaccine;
 - (b) to organize, if they have not yet done so, as soon as possible, eradication programmes along the guide-lines provided by the report of the Director-General; and
2. REQUESTS the Director-General
 - (a) to collect from Member States, especially of those areas where smallpox is endemic, information on the financial requirements for an eradication programme;
 - (b) to provide, on request, assistance to national administrations for the different aspects of the organization and development of eradication programmes; and
 - (c) to report to the Twelfth World Health Assembly on further developments.