



**World Health
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Africa**

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REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

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RESOLUTION

**UPDATED REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
DETERMINANTS OF HUMAN HEALTH IN THE AFRICAN REGION 2022–2032**

(Document AFR/RC72/10)

The Regional Committee,

Having considered document AFR/RC72/10 entitled “Updated regional strategy for the management of environmental determinants of human health in the African Region 2022–2032”;

Considering that almost 29% of the total disease burden in Africa which is due to environmental factors could largely be prevented;

Concerned that a changing climate is further threatening our water and food resources and that a healthier environment will greatly reduce the burden on our health systems and alleviate the hardship faced by populations;

Noting that Member States of the African Region are currently the most vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change and, at the same time, the least prepared to address them effectively;

Recognizing that interventions continue to be very limited in their scale and impact and that COVID-19 has markedly slowed down the implementation of the previous strategy but provided lessons and opportunities for renewed action;

Seizing the opportunity to revitalize action on environmental determinants of human health and contribute to sustainable development in phase with the WHO manifesto for a healthy and green recovery from the pandemic;

Recalling the Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa (2008) which establishes a strategic alliance between the health and environment sectors as the basis for plans of joint action;

Recalling the Joint Statement on Climate Change and Health adopted at the Second Interministerial Conference on Health and Environment in Africa (2010);

Recalling the Strategic action plan 2019–2029 that was adopted to scale up “health and environment” interventions (2018),

1. APPROVES the updated regional strategy for the management of environmental determinants of human health in the African Region 2022–2032;
2. URGES Member States to:
 - (a) Provide stewardship and leadership, forge partnerships with donors, multilateral agencies, the private sector and civil society.
 - (b) Increase allocation of resources and scale up domestic investments on platforms, initiatives and programmes addressing the impact of environmental factors on health.
 - (c) Champion intercountry stakeholders' dialogue and promote public-private partnerships.
 - (d) Set the research agenda, consolidate scientific evidence, and share experiences and lessons learnt on managing health and environment in the African Region.
 - (e) Implement key priority actions and interventions.
3. URGES WHO and partners to:
 - (a) Set and disseminate norms and standards, policy advice and implementation guidance, including methodologies and protocols to support country actions.
 - (b) Facilitate capacity building and technical assistance for the development and implementation of national plans of joint action.
 - (c) Catalyse mobilization of domestic and external resources by supporting the development of national business cases for investment in priority health and environment interventions.
 - (d) Advocate for heightened commitment, increased visibility, prioritization, and understanding of health and environment linkages within and beyond WHO.
 - (e) Promote regional stakeholders' dialogue and public-private partnerships.
 - (f) Report on the implementation of this strategy to the WHO Regional Committee every two years starting in 2024.

Seventy-second meeting, 25 August 2022