



## WHA 69

### ITALY

Italy has tailored policies and services aimed at protecting and promoting the physical and mental health of refugees and migrants, as well as of our hosting communities, preventing discrimination and violence, as we have seen elsewhere.

Comprehensive immunization programmes have been ensured and systems set in place for active surveillance. Special care is offered to children, pregnant women, the elderly, people with disabilities and victims of torture. Sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence and mental health, trauma and injury treatment receive also special attention.

We feel that the effective provision of health care must adapt and respond to the needs of a changing population and take account of cultural, religious, linguistic and gender diversity. Accordingly, we are extensively training our health professionals and relevant non-health actors and are piloting the involvement of migrating health professionals in service provision.

In particular:

(paragraph 2, line 7) We suggest to make reference to evidence showing that migrants' recruitment and mobilization is operated by human trafficking organizations. Reports of yesterday say that 90% of migration routes are managed by such organizations with an estimated revenue of

5 to 6 billion dollars cashed yearly.

(paragraph 2) We urge the Secretariat to note and report on the human lives toll paid by migrants crossing the sea. Casualties so far are at least of the same magnitude of the Ebola outbreak, now over, while the migrants' epidemics is ever expanding. In the last two days, our Navy rescued more than 9,000 migrants on 33 different missions, with a hundred casualties and an increased proportion of unaccompanied minors and children.

(paragraph 11) We suggest to include the need to:

- promote a migrant-sensitive culture among recipient, transit and final destination communities, advocating for equitable and violence-free environments, and
- promote interagency and inter-country collaboration, preventing duplications, incoherent action, discriminatory unilateral initiatives

Based on the above, Italy urges the DG to prepare for a new resolution for the next WHA, updating resolution WHA 61.17 (2008). The Secretariat may like to rely as a reference on the work done by the WHO/EURO Regional Office.

Thank you Chair.