



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF TURKIC SPEAKING COUNTRIES

COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND HEALTH PROTECTION

SEVENTH MEETING

Ankara, May 11, 2022

“HARMONIZATION OF HEALTH SYSTEMS IN TURKPA MEMBER STATES”

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Parliamentary Assembly:

Considering health to be one of the most significant elements of the human quality of life, and therefore an essential factor in the development of every country in the TURKPA region;

Supporting the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and further Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) promulgated by the United Nations (UN) and adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015 which endows special importance to global partnership and regional collaboration that aim to develop healthcare systems of each Member State and that enable international organizations to implement efficient and sustainable healthcare policies;

Supporting the activities of the international institutions and UN specialized agencies dealing with global health, such as World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and so on;

Noting the importance of international cooperation and international conventions and laws which have linkages to health issues which TURKPA member countries also have joined and adopted;

Acknowledging that parliaments and parliamentarians play an essential role in health by enacting legislation, approving budgets, mobilizing resources, as well as they are primarily responsible for providing adequate, sustainable, and accessible medical services to their citizens;

Stressing the need for further development of relations among the Turkic-speaking countries in the field of health, as in other areas, and to harmonize health systems in this direction;

Emphasizing the importance of access to better health services for people living in transboundary areas;

Taking into account certain differences among health systems and health indicators of population in Turkic-speaking countries which are related to both the financing of health services and the application of health insurance;

Noting that cooperation among the parliaments of member countries through bilateral or multilateral agreements, as well as their collaboration with international and regional specialized organizations, should be regarded as a potential mechanism for harmonization of health system;

The Assembly recommends that the parliaments of the TURKPA member countries:

a) *to develop* joint training programs to increase the knowledge and skills of doctors and nurses;

b) *to establish* a special legal regime for the temporary employment of medical personnel working in member states at the invitation of public and private medical institutions in other member states and to develop appropriate electronic application and approval mechanisms;

c) *to establish* cooperation with the relevant body of the member countries on the application of the compulsory health insurance system and exchange relevant experience;

d) *to cooperate* with relevant agencies of member countries for the development of digital health platform in our countries;

e) *to regulate* the issues of medical services in the field of telemedicine for citizens of member countries;

f) *to establish* relations with health funds located in member countries, as well as establish relations with relevant institutions for grant projects;

g) *to implement* joint social projects in member countries for promotion a healthy lifestyle;

h) *to develop* cooperation with member countries in direction of establishing a centralized unified ambulance system and exchange of relevant experience;

i) *to improve* primary health care facilities (family health centers, rural medical centers) and establish cooperation with member countries in order to improve the quality of services provided, as well as exchange relevant experience;

- j) to create* preferential legal regimes for residents of cross-border areas traveling to neighboring countries to obtain medical tourism and medical services;
- k) to provide* legislation for the recognition of documents on higher and secondary medical education issued by government agencies of Turkic-speaking countries, as well as the mutual recognition and verification of licenses of practicing physicians, nurses and pharmacists on a single basis;
- l) to establish* special preferential legal regimes in Turkic-speaking countries for local drug manufacturers of member countries and include appropriate mechanisms in the legislation to facilitate the registration of drugs and biologically active substances;
- m) to harmonize* the procedures for citizens of other member countries receiving medical treatment to complain about the medical services they receive in medical institutions;
- n) to identify* other priorities of cooperation among the TURKPA member countries in the relevant fields.