PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF TURKIC STATES

COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND HEALTH PROTECTION

NINTH MEETING

May 27, 2024

Online

RECOMMENDATIONS

"MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT IN TURKPA MEMBER STATES"

The Parliamentary Assembly**:**

Taking into consideration that medical waste is one of the major global environmental issues that may lead to serious threats to the healthcare system of TURKPA member states;

Stressing the improvement of medical waste management as an essential factor in the development of healthcare systems of the TURKPA region;

Bearing in mind poorly managed medical waste that can cause long-term and undesirable risks to human health, posing a significant hazard to the environment;

Stating that the correct management of medical, hospital and hazardous waste represents a great opportunity for prevention and the reduction of risks to the environment and healthcare system;

Welcoming efforts to consolidate achievements of national healthcare institutions of the TURKPA member states;

Supporting all types of events held in TURKPA member states on medical waste management focused on key aspects of the issue;

Understanding the effectiveness of more efficient medical waste management which reduces the volume of damage and minimizes potential risks;

Mentioning international conventions and laws related to medical waste management which TURKPA member states have joined and adopted;

Underlining the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal adopted on 22 March 1989 and the Stockholm Convention on the protection of human health and the environment from the harmful effects of Persistent Organic Pollutions (POPs) adopted on 22 May 2001;

Noting the cooperation among the member parliaments in the field of health protection and medical care through their collaboration with international and regional organizations;

Recommends the parliaments of the TURKPA member states:

a) to improve the legal framework concerning medical waste management with harmonization and approximation of national legislation among member states;

b) *to make efforts* to separate collection at source the waste according to the regulations, with more strictness and attention to make it more efficient and less damaging to the environment;

c) *to develop* an innovative model of medical waste management system of Turkic states aiming at strengthening the regional healthcare network;

d) to organize educational programs and training opportunities to raise awareness about health, safety and environmental protection issues relating to medical waste management and to ensure worker safety through education, training and proper;

e) to implement improved policies and procedures to result in fewer illnesses and less environmental pollution;

f) *to consider* the perspective of directions of possible cooperation among the TURKPA member states in the relevant fields;

g) *to keep* waste management problems in focus by establishing clear guidelines for medical institutions;

h) *to reduce* the quantity of waste generated by regulating the use of materials and disposable equipment, to enhance medical waste management and treatment;

i) *to use* new technologies in waste disposal to reduce environmental pollution.