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WHO PROGRAMME OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO WAR-AFFECTED POPULATIONS OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA: Report of an external evaluation

In order to help the World Health Organization carry out its health mandate in the situation prevailing in the republics of the former Yugoslavia, the Regional Director invited three external reviewers, as well as an executive secretary from another WHO Region, to make a strategic review of the WHO programme of humanitarian assistance to the war-affected populations in those republics. The external review took place over a ten-day period in June 1994, two years after the initiation of field operations.

The Regional Director welcomes the external evaluation report, contained in Part II of this document, as a timely and constructive contribution to WHO's current and future programmes of humanitarian assistance in the European Region. To his knowledge, no other United Nations agency has taken the step of conducting such an open assessment while its humanitarian assistance programme continues to evolve rapidly. He greatly appreciates the extensive field trips made by the evaluation team and their efforts to tackle the many difficult tasks set out in their terms of reference. He asks the Standing Committee to note that, prior to this external evaluation, a wide-ranging internal review had been made of the management of WHO's relief activities in