



REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE

STATEMENT FROM H.E AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
MOZAMBIQUE IN GENEVA MR. PEDRO COMISSÁRIO,
70th WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Geneva, 24th May 2017

Mrs. President,

Mrs. General Director of WHO

Excellences

Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Republic of Mozambique, I wish to extend our deepest condolences and extend our embrace of unfailing solidarity to the victims and their families of the barbaric attack in Manchester, United Kingdom.

Ms. President

I warmly congratulate you on your unanimous election to chair the sessions of the 70th session of the World Health Assembly.

Yesterday, we celebrated the victory of the African Union candidate for WHO Director-General, Dr. Tedros, a brilliant, honest man with a broad vision, excellent leadership qualities and, above all, technically and politically able to lead our organization to higher levels of results. We would like to congratulate the new DG and ensure Mozambique's firm commitment to work closely and constructively with him.

We salute Dr. Margaret Chan, outgoing Director General of WHO, who for ten years has served our Organization with extreme dedication and effectiveness. She was able to achieve remarkable results and was able to face many challenges. At the end of her term, Mozambique pays him a well-deserved tribute and wishing her many successes in future projects.

Mr. President

The report presented by the Director-General of WHO reflects the great achievements we have collectively achieved for our peoples. But it also reflects the magnitude of the work that still have be done to provide well-being, a healthy life of peace, justice and tranquility to the children, women and men around the world because they serve it.

It is in this context that Mozambique considers the imperative to combine our efforts to materialize the Sustainable Development Goals. We are convinced that this is the right and safest way to overcome the challenges of building better health systems.

Mrs. President

Regarding my country I would like to inform this august assembly that epidemiological profile of Mozambique still dominated by a high burden of communicable diseases; however, non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, cancer, and cardiovascular diseases are also becoming a major concern in my country.

As our country is at an early stage of the epidemiological transition, there is a huge challenge for all of us, which led the sector to launch a project on Integrated Health Care for Diabetes and Hypertension this year at the level of primary health care.

Mozambique recognizes that primary health care as the best approach to reach each households with essential and affordable care in order to establish a strong and resilient Health System with a capacity for people-centered and living-responsive responses.

In order to respond to health needs, towards sustainable development, is important to take courageous intervention measures, while in same time actions are taking place to fight

poverty, hunger and inequalities, increase the quality and coverage of health services delivery.

One of our major priority is to expand the access of services, improve the quality of health care, reduction of maternal mortality, morbidity and mortality due to chronic malnutrition, malaria, tuberculosis, HIV and non - communicable diseases. We associate with the voices that identify global challenges to be carefully addressed such as antimicrobial resistance, on which Mozambique already started the process of elaborating its National Response Action Plan, and Vector Control, while recognizing that vector-borne diseases still pose a major threat to public health in Mozambique.

Mrs. President

The Sustainable Development Objectives were defined at a time when there was already a significant mobilization of synergies and the launching of several global initiatives, which originated during the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals

It was through the implementation of the expanded immunization program that the country was able to reduce under 5 mortality rate, which contributed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal 4.

I wish to conclude by reiterating the firm will of my Government to continue working for the well-being of its people through the continuous health conditions improvement.

Thank you very much for your attention