



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

**150th Session of the WHO Executive Board
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Pillar	1	One Billion More People Benefitting From Universal Health Coverage
Agenda	11	Immunization Agenda 2030
	12	Infection prevention and control
	13	Global road map on defeating meningitis by 2030

Thank you, Chair.

The Philippines takes note of the report on the burden of infections and antimicrobial resistance. We also fully support preventing the transmission of Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs) like meningitis through the implementation of the *Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030)*.

The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly underscored the importance of preventing and controlling the spread of infections. The rise of resistant organisms can strain the already dwindling antimicrobial options available. Immunization and IPC practices are fundamental measures to mitigate the emergence and spread of infections and to reduce the use of antimicrobials.

The implementation of measures to reduce infection across all settings is a key strategy in the Philippine Action Plan to Combat AMR. We continue to advance this agenda through the implementation of the National Program on Infection Prevention and Control and Antimicrobial Stewardship, and the development of strategic direction on immunization that is aligned with the IA2030. Throughout the pandemic, the Philippines continuously capacitates and advocates for compliance to IPC and antimicrobial stewardship practices and promotes that life-saving vaccines are available in health centers by engaging in media platforms and by developing policies and guidelines on Routine Immunization, Antimicrobial Stewardship, and Infection Prevention and Control.

The glaring issue amid the pandemic is the limited public health workforce to deliver priority health actions. Incorporating financing and delivery through primary care and universal health care insurance may be the synergistic step to enhance the participation of the private health sector. This will enrich equitable access to safe and quality health facilities and services in the midst of the pandemic and beyond.

The Philippines is grateful for the continuous support and leadership of the WHO. We will endeavor to sustain our efforts to build strong and sustainable health systems resilient against all health threats.

Thank you.