



## REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

### 150th Session of the WHO Executive Board Virtual Platform 24-29 January 2022

Pilar	4	More effective and efficient WHO providing better support to countries
Agenda	19.1	Financing and Implementation of Programme Budgets
	19.2	Programme budget 2022–2023

The Philippines thanks the Secretariat for the reports on Programme Budgets. We note the pockets of poverty as seen in the heatmap and the weak donor interest on the strategic priority of one billion more people enjoying better health and well-being. We are mindful of the noticeable disparity in financing for epidemics and pandemics across regions, as well as in financing for improved access to medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and devices for primary healthcare. These translate to grave inequities and should, therefore, be corrected once and for all.

Nevertheless, we sincerely congratulate the Secretariat for striving to fulfill the commitments in the approved Programme budget across all segments, despite the demands of large-scale emergency operations for COVID-19 response; and taking stock of the lessons from the pandemic so that the Programme Budget for 2022 to 2023, and beyond, is calibrated for intensified WHO support for countries' social and economic recovery. We believe that among the most important focus of the revision in the Programme Budget are on reversing the backsliding on progress towards Universal Health Coverage and building safe and equitable societies by tackling the determinants of health.

The extension of the Thirteenth General Programme of Work to 2025 should feature intense focus on expanding health emergencies protection index indicators and methodologies for smaller scale events in order to build local capacities to prevent outbreaks. Moreover, intensifying WHO support in countries for resilient recovery towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires tackling the unequal and uneven progress on SDG indicators across populations and countries.

The Philippines stands in solidarity with the global community in driving actions beyond business as usual towards an equitable progress towards the SDGs, anchored on the GPW13 results framework.

Thank you, Chair.