

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

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Pilar	4	More effective and efficient WHO providing better support to countries
0	19.3	Sustainable Financing

The Philippines reiterates its support to the proposal for a gradual and equitable increase in Member States' contribution to the WHO based on an assessment that accounts for economic indicators of member-states. We sincerely appreciate the modelling of phased assessed contributions increasing beginning 2023 until 2029. We take note of the computation for our country, and the overall projection of more than one billion dollar total ACs by the 2028-2029 biennium.

The report on the funds distribution by strategic priority shows that voluntary contributions with specified projects made up most of WHO financing, across strategic priorities and programs, more than the flexible funds from ACs and Core VCs. This greatly impacts the organization's flexibility and is related to the pockets of poverty, underfunded areas and inequitable financing of outcomes, major offices and strategic priorities. We believe this argument should justify Member States' support to the proposed increase in assessed contributions.

However, stringent monitoring mechanisms to guarantee increased transparency and accountability at all levels and country-centred priority setting should, first and foremost, be established at the onset. Moreover, it will entail strengthening efforts to safeguard resources for the most disadvantaged regions.

It is also Member States' responsibility to ensure that we have carefully considered budget prioritization, and the associated costs, until sunsetting, of the decisions and resolutions presented for adoption in the World Health Assembly and Executive Board. Budgetary reforms towards flexibility to effectively implement the decisions and resolutions are equally important.

Finally, the Philippines strongly supports the extension of the term of the Working Group on Sustainable Financing. We also look forward to robust discussions for a replenishment model for the organization and governance matters related to this mechanism.

Thank you, Chair.