



152nd Session of the Executive Board, WHO

Bangladesh statement

Item 2: Report by the Director General

Date: **30 January 2022**

Thank you, Madam Chair.

We thank the Director General for the comprehensive report. We commend WHO's efforts during this trying time of humanity.

Distinguished delegates,

COVID-19 pandemic triggered discussion for crafting effective normative measures for WHO. DG's reform initiatives and priorities in this regard deserve our appreciation. A self-contained pandemic instrument with deliverables and effective amendment of IHR (2005) would be exigent for a robust global health architecture.

It is alarming that the world is yet in a predicament with the current pandemic situation spanning over the fourth year. While we see the success of science in finding means to respond to the current pandemic, our approach needs to be much more balanced to reap the benefit through ensuring equitable and unhindered access to vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics for all. Otherwise, we won't be able to achieve health equities for the people within and among the countries.

It is a matter of concern that routine immunization for the children in some parts of the world is on the decline. Hence, it would be important to enhance WHO's support to those countries to enable them to rejuvenate their routine immunization.

As a climate vulnerable country, Bangladesh appreciates WHO's focus on the impact of climate change. Frequency and number of participants of the Young Professionals Programme should be increased to upskill more young professionals.

Bangladesh believes, replenishment process to fill out the gaps in financing would be useful to address WHO's priorities and cater to the need of the people at country level.

I thank you, Chair.
