



## 152<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Executive Board, WHO

### Bangladesh statement

**Item 5:** Reorienting health systems to primary health care as a resilient foundation for universal health coverage and preparations for a high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on universal health coverage

Date: **1 February 2022**

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Thank you, Madam Chair.

We appreciate the Secretariat for the report.

On the first question, to fill out the gaps in domestic financing, we would suggest combination of following three ways:

one, flexible and predictable funding from the donors;  
two, increased soft loans from the International Financial Institutions; and  
three, flexibility for WHO to repurpose voluntary contribution to address the challenges in PHC and UHC.

In addition to the above, WHO's continued support in policy and strategy areas at country level and increased allocation of equity-based fund to green the heatmap would remain crucially important.

This apart, Member States need to take into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and political crises in some parts of the world to ensure access to health products and health services for everyone everywhere. In that pursuit, the principles of solidarity, inclusivity and right to health for all should be upheld under the aegis of human rights.

On the second question on alignment, a set of questions may be developed by the Secretariat that would help streamline the interventions at the high-level meetings. The meetings can reflect upon the following:

- a. How promising commitment can be reached at the political level that would help strengthen PHC and extend UHC to build back better?
- b. How health services and supplies can be made available and affordable to address inequality and health inequity within and among the countries?
- c. How essential health services and supplies can be delinked from political and commercial interests?

Prior to conclude, Bangladesh would like to cosponsor Eswatini's resolution, and reaffirm support and cosponsorship of the resolutions proposed by Thailand and Uganda.

Long version of the statement will be posted online.

I thank you, Chair.

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