

WHO 152nd Session of Executive Board

Item 17. The highest attainable standard of health for persons with disabilities

Statement of Finland

Thank you Chair,

Finland aligns herself with the statement of the EU delivered by Denmark.

We welcome the implementation of the UN strategy on disability inclusion into WHO policies. The indicators presented in the report provide a clear understanding of which actions have already been taken and where attention is still required.

Finland emphasizes that promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities requires actions at all levels, namely local, national and international and the strategy provides an excellent tool for that purpose.

Nevertheless, it is of utmost importance that all actions are designed and evaluated in full collaboration with organizations representing persons with disabilities.

Overall, Finland considers that it is important to pay attention to meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in all work of WHO as a cross-cutting element as this is the only way to ensure that sustainable and inclusive development leaving no-one behind is achieved.

Thank you