

The Republic of Korea would like to welcome the Director-General's report on the 'Global Health for Peace Initiative.

Most of the diseases subject to WHO's humanitarian assistance break out in fragile, conflict-affected and vulnerable settings. In these settings, health crisis such as COVID-19 pandemic escalates into complex crisis, due to factors such as conflicts and climate change.

To prevent such complex crises from becoming chronic crises, and to quickly restore peace, it is essential to promptly protect people's physical and mental health; protect healthcare professionals and healthcare system; and protect and support the vulnerable groups hit by conflicts, such as women and children.

As the Republic of Korea recognizes that efforts for sustainable development and peace to resolve the root of conflicts and humanitarian crises are important, the Republic of Korea welcomes WHO's suggestions of and efforts to concretize 'the Global Health for Peace Initiative' to 'link health and peace', as a means of adding substance to the HDP Nexus.

In the meantime, as it is important for WHO to come up with approaches suited to local contexts and circumstances of each fragile, conflict-affected and vulnerable setting, the Republic of Korea would like to suggest that the initiative goes beyond global objectives to cover objectives for each region and Member State as well.