Distinguished Heads of Member State Delegations, Honorable Members of International Organizations and dear Guests!

Kazakhstan congratulates the World Health Organization with its 70th anniversary. Over 70 years, the state of health in the world has improved in unimaginable pace, thanks to joint global efforts led by WHO.

I also express my gratitude for the trust in electing me as a Vice-President of this Assembly!

The dynamic leadership of Director-General Dr Tedros is a visible example for member-states to continuously ask ourselves – what can we do better to serve our people more effectively.

Kazakhstan confirms its commitment to what our Distinguished Director General has said, “does not happen just by itself” – the universal health coverage of all people.

As inequalities grow globally, the leaders must not lose time plan for current and future health needs. This proactive approach should include the appropriate role of primary heath care – a person’s point of most frequent contact with a health system.
A **strong economic case** for supporting and investing into Primary Health Care remains as vital as forty years ago, when Alma-Ata Declaration care was adopted. Those countries who did not properly **support** primary care by allocating sufficient resources, now experience uncontrollably **high healthcare costs**.

By having a **resilient, people-centered primary health care**, a country can meet majority of its citizen’s health needs throughout most of their lifespans, and be better prepared to **health and security threats**, including epidemics, antibiotic resistance, labor migrants’ health and more.

The world faces **new trends and challenges**, that need to be addressed in a meaningful way. As we get connected by internet and gadgets, health leaders could **turn digitalization into serving** people’s health needs.

For example, **digitalization** could help to improve people’s **access** to care, help people live longer through **continuous prevention**, allow to practice **solidary responsibility** for health by tracking health status, and more.

These trends create a need for a **revitalized look** to global commitment to primary health care. Commemorating the core principles of Alma-Ata Declaration, Kazakhstan proposes to think how we can deliver Primary Health Care for at least **another 40 years ahead**.

**National polices in Kazakhstan** reflect this commitment. We implemented a **value-based health care** for primary,
outpatient and inpatient care, so that public money follows the patient because of a **free choice of providers**, and inadequate quality care is not reimbursed or reimbursed at a reduced level.

Kazakhstan is implementing a **National Social Health Insurance Reform to achieve universal health coverage.**

We developed a **National Primary Care Concept** that guides primary care development in Kazakhstan. We also work on integrity of labor migrants’ health.

To refocus from managing **diseases** to managing the **health of people**, Kazakhstan strengthened its national **public health** framework, covering issues from healthy cities, universities and schools, to food industry, healthier environments, physical activity, and inter-sectoral collaboration in many other areas.

Dear colleagues!

I am honored to **invite you** to the Global Conference on Primary Health Care to be held on October 25 and 26th in Astana, Kazakhstan and invite you **to discussion of the new Declaration** on PHC!

I congratulate everyone for **commitment to primary health care** on the way to achieve Health for All and wish a successful work during this Assembly!

Thank you for your attention!