



Agenda item 13.1 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

Document A76/6

Statement;

Hon delegates

Hon delegates we extend greetings from the smiling coast of Africa The Gambia.

The Gambia is grateful for the opportunity to take the floor and make statements 13.1 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; agenda item 13.1.

Gambia supports the statement made by South Soudan on behalf of the member states of the WHO AFRO Region.

PHC is the definite way forward in reaching UHC. We have a lot of successes in PHC in providing accessibility to health Services , preventive services and promotive services especially at the community level. About 90% of essential services can be provided through PHC.

Anchoring the primary level of PHC on voluntarism will not lead to expansion and increase quality of care.

Recent national Health Accounts

(nHAs) for Fiscal year 2018 and 2019 showed high out-of-pocket (oop) (20.34% in 2019) contribution and reduced public contribution (32.54% in 2019) and donor funding to the health sector (27%). these trends call for urgent efforts for sustainable

financing, including introducing key reforms outlined in the national health financing strategy and national health policy

The Gambia is looking at averting this process through a health financing methods that utilises the principle of result-based financing. The Gambia is poised to launch its NHIS later this year. Digitisation has been employed so that the culture of RBF already establish in The Gambia is integrated in NHIS system.

We are very hopeful voluntarism at the primary level need to be done away with and the primary levels should also be covered by NHIS using RBF model to ensure quality services at all levels.

The Director General's report is duly noted. We urge its adoption as a resolution recommended by the Executive Board in decision EB152(5) (2023 at the 76th World Health Assembly).