Agenda Item: 15.1 Document: A76/7 Rev.1

Statement of I.R. IRAN on "Strengthening clinical trials to provide high-quality evidence on health interventions and to improve research quality and coordination"

We express our gratitude to the Director General and the secretariat for their efforts in creating document A76/7 Rev.1. Undoubtedly, this document will serve as a valuable aid in the formulation and execution of high quality clinical trials, thereby furnishing the necessary evidence to improve health interventions and to facilitate decision-making.

Regarding the key notes reported under the subtitle "Consultations in October to November 2022" we agree that greater international collaboration and coordination are needed for efficient funding of agreed priorities and for multinational and multiregional trials. However, we recognize that some countries are facing challenges due to unilateral coercive measures of one developed country with overcompliance of other developed ones, which make it difficult to import new technologies or receive grants from other countries to design high-quality clinical trials.

Therefore, we highly recommend that a practical solution or at least a WHO resolution to be adopted to address this challenge. It is important that WHO establish agreements with international banks or grant organizations to provide support for countries that are affected by such unilateral coercive measures.

Under the same subtitle, we acknowledge the need for greater capacity for clinical trials in lower-income countries, with a focus on country leadership and equitable partnerships for research in such countries. Accordingly, we suggest that WHO design a training program for low-income countries, with the curriculum prepared by volunteer countries.

Madam Chairperson, thank you for this opportunity.