

**Statement of the I.R. Iran on  
"Draft Global Strategy for Infection Prevention and Control"**

While appreciating the secretariat for preparation of this document, we would like to mention a few points as follows:

The global experiences caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the occurrence of other major outbreaks such as MERS-CoV and Ebola in the past 10 years, confirm the importance and necessity of using an "infection prevention and control strategy" to protect public health and avoid harms for patients and society caused by non-compliance with IPC.

The strengths of document is the description of the vision, goals & strategy for improvement of IPC programs at the global, regional and national levels.

Due to the breadth and scope of the program and the impact of numerous factors, there are some potential challenges against the successful implementation of the program such as non-compliance of HCWs with IPC criteria, the insufficient number of isolation rooms/wards, the capacity of microbiology laboratories in hospitals and non-standard ventilation systems in the hospitals & inappropriate layout.

In order to address the above-mentioned challenges, it felt necessary to coordinate various disciplines, thus the deputy for treatment affairs of Ministry of Health & Medical Education (MOH&ME) formed a national committee with the membership of all key stakeholder discipline

The last but not the least, considering the broad nature of the IPC program on one hand and limited resources on the other hand, a step-by-step implementation is recommended especially in health care facilities of lower-income countries.