

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**



**NATIONAL STATEMENT**

**BY**

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**76<sup>TH</sup> WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

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- Your Excellency, Dr. Christopher, President of the 76<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly
- Dr. Tedros, Director General of WHO
- Fellow Ministers, colleagues, and friends

I am delighted to address this momentous Assembly as we celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the World Health Organisation. Since its establishment, WHO has recorded significant milestones, but **our journey towards Health for All is far from over.**

The lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted the urgent need for improvements in the global, regional, and national health emergency architecture.

As we negotiate a new Pandemic Treaty, we must first seek to address those gaps that hampered efforts to mount an effective response. We must use this opportunity to entrench greater equity in global health and leave no one behind.

Building on our achievements in addressing both communicable and non-communicable diseases, Kenya has embarked on a transformative path,

shifting our focus from curative measures to the primacy of preventive and promotive health.

This approach aligns with the Kenya Kwanza Administration's Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda which prioritizes the following four key actions.

**Firstly**, the Kenyan government is investing in our **health workforce**, with a focus on Community Health Promoters who are well trained, fit for purpose and motivated to deliver health services at community level.

**Secondly**, we are reviewing our health financing architecture to ensure sustainable financing through Social Health Insurance, while prioritizing vulnerable and marginalized populations.

**Thirdly**, we are strengthening health commodity security by investing in local manufacturing to increase access and affordability of essential health commodities.

**Finally**, leveraging on integrated digital technologies, we aim to deliver efficient healthcare services while ensuring end to end visibility and accountability in the supply chain pipeline system.

**Excellencies**, at this juncture, I wish to deliver brief regional statements on behalf of two Member State organisations I have the honour to represent.

In my capacity as **Chair-in-Office of the Commonwealth Health Ministers**, I wish to highlight key outcomes from our recent meeting. We acknowledged the urgent need to accelerate action on Universal health coverage and committed to invest in primary healthcare to address the increasing burden of non communicable diseases leveraging on digital health platforms, while at the same time integrating mental health services, and strengthening national capacities for pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response.

I also have the honour of serving as **Chair to the Health Ministers of the East, Central, and Southern Africa Health Community**. Together, we recognize that achieving UHC and Health Security is contingent upon having an adequate and fit-for-purpose health workforce. Therefore, we are resolute in our commitment to strengthen the health workforce, in addition to other initiatives aimed at bolstering our health systems.

**In conclusion,** I wish to convey the commitment of the Government of Kenya to reforming the multilateral system to make it more inclusive and able to offer solutions to the health challenges of today.

Going forward, the Government of Kenya will continue to collaborate and constructively engage with the World Health Organization and other Member States in building mutually respectful and sustainable partnerships that aim to accelerate achievements towards UHC commitments, recognizing the critical interlinkages between health, sustainable development, peace and security.

As we move to the High-Level meetings, let us seize this pivotal moment and rally the necessary political will, commitment, and resources to secure a future where we **fulfill the promise of Health for All.**

I thank you.