



## REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

76<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly  
21 – 30 May 2023 / Geneva, Switzerland

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>Results Report 2022 (Programme budget 2022–2023)</b>
	<b>19.2</b>	<b>Financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2022–2023 and outlook on financing of the Programme budget 2024–2025</b>

### REQUESTED ACTIONS:

- Provide guidance on whether the report responds to the expectations of Member States in terms of its content and level of detail; and serves its purpose of facilitating Member States' oversight function of Programme budget implementation.
- To note the report on operational efficiencies and provide comments, including on: How can the report be improved next year? Is the reporting frequency of once per year adequate?

The Philippines sincerely appreciates the comprehensive report of the Secretariat on WHO Financing for the Programme Budget 2022-2023. The Report itself serves as an alert mechanism for Member States and international organizations. We note the recurrence of funding gap for base programmes, which is compounded by the persisting challenge of pockets of poverty across programs and regions. We also note that the comparison of base budget segment financing by main type of funds as of March of the previous and current biennium shows almost the same proportion of assessed and voluntary contributions. This in itself serves as an alert that the level of flexible funding remains insufficient to cover the funding gaps, even though, through Member-State led working groups on sustainable financing, there has been a consistent call for core, instead of specified, voluntary contributions. The latter results in unequal funding across major offices and target outcomes, and thus, results in more and bigger pockets of poverty.

Thus, the increased share of specified voluntary contributions projected to finance programmes in 2024-2025 indicates a less predictable and less flexible Programme Budget in the next biennium. The Philippines will remain faithful to its commitment on proposed increases in the assessed contributions with a firm conviction that it is our duty as a Member State to support drivers in improving financing of the Programme Budget, most especially as the next programme cycle should have a genuine enhanced focus on the least-served and most marginalized populations.

In the report on operational effectiveness, the Philippines believes that an annual report, reflecting five-year comparison of cost- and time- savings would be sufficient. We appreciate the qualitative detail in the annexed list of cost savings or efficiency gains. It is a brilliant approach that inspires and demonstrates the sincerity of the organization, not only in saving costs, but also in saving the planet, through operational efficiencies. We wish to commend the Secretariat's report on innovative cost saving work, which is an attestation of a level of vigilance aligning with the principles discussed in the Agile Member States Task Group on Strengthening WHO's Budgetary, Programmatic and Financing Governance.

Thank you.**END**