



**Solomon Islands Health Minister's intervention at the WHA Meeting 2023 on Agenda Item 13.4 - Strengthening rehabilitation in health systems**

Thank you Chair, Solomon Islands endorses the Rehabilitation 2020: A Call for Action in 2017 which identified areas for united and concerted action and encourages countries to prioritize the expansion of accessible and affordable rehabilitation within the healthcare system.

In December 2022, MHMS launched its Rehabilitation Strategic Plan 2022-2031 its National Disability Development Policy 2022-2031 aiming to increase access to timely, effective, person-centered rehabilitation that is integrated at all levels of healthcare and communities.

Our Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade is in the process of formally submitting the documentation to the UN office on the country's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.

Solomon Islands notes the decision of the committee for Member States to: (1) strengthen financing mechanisms, (2) expand rehabilitation across all levels of care including integration along the continuum of care, (3) develop strong multidisciplinary rehabilitation skills suitable to the country context, and (4) enhance health information systems and rehabilitation research.

On this note it is crucial that WHO to support review and further development of the Role Delineation Policy to reflect the services and standards specified for each level of health facility in the Rehabilitation Strategic Plan 2022-2031 and the global rehabilitation goals.

Thank you Chair