Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia on Agenda Item 5.7 Medicines, Vaccines and Health products (Document EB144/17 Access to Medicines and Vaccines) at the 144th Session of the Executive Board Geneva, Switzerland, January 2019

Honorable Chair, Members of the Executive Boards, Distinguished Delegates,

I would like to thank Director General for updating us on the progress made since the adoption of Health Assembly decision WHA71(8).

Indonesia takes note the draft Roadmap for Access to Medicines, Vaccines and other Health Products 2019-2023. Indonesia is of the view that the draft Road Map has provided clear and concise activities, actions and deliverables to ensure safe, quality medicines, vaccines, and health products are available and affordable in a timely manner. The draft Roadmap is also in line with the Delhi Declaration on Improving Access to Essential Medical Products in the Region and Beyond adopted at the South-East Asia Regional Committee meeting in September 2018.

Honorable Chair,

Equitable access to essential medical products can be optimized through global cooperation and cross-sectoral cooperation to improve equitable access of medical products, as well as developing an effective, transparent and participatory mechanism for price negotiation and/or pooled procurement. However, this collaboration should consider and respect the laws and regulations in respective member countries. In this regard, Indonesia fully supports the request to the WHO to facilitate Member States' negotiation process to develop a mechanism that ensures access to medical products, particularly cancer medicines.

Indonesia has best-practices in developing this mechanism. Since 1980, Indonesia has developed a National Essential Medicines List, which is revised regularly every two years. Moreover, in 2013, Indonesia has also established National Formulary as a reference for health facilities in selecting and procuring medicines, in order to improve the quality of health services within the framework of the National Health Insurance. In 2018, proportion of primary health facilities that have core set of relevant essential medicines and vaccines available and affordable on sustainable basis up to 92.83%.

I thank you, Chair.