REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

BOTSWANA AMBASSADOR H.E DR. ATHALIAH LESIBABA MOLOKOMME

STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA ON APPOINTMENT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA

DATE: 03 FEBRUARY, 2020;

VENUE: WHO HEADQUARTERS EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM
25.1 – Appointment of the Regional Director for Africa- Dr Matshidiso Moeti.

I wish to convey our heartfelt condolences to the WHO, the federal government and the People of Australia and most of all to the family of Mr Peter Salama for this untimely death.

Mr Chairman, Botswana wishes to congratulate Dr Matshidiso Moeti on her re-appointment to the position of Regional Director for Africa. We acknowledge the excellent work she did on her first tour of duty ably assisted, by a dynamic and transformative team.

Dr Moeti has guaranteed that the Region inculcates universal health coverage for achievement of the health related SDGs. As proclaimed by Kenya in their statement on behalf of the Region, She led “an ambitious transformation Agenda with a focus on pro-results values, smart technical focus, responsive strategic operations, and effective communication and partnerships”.

We have particularly noted that the Region’s efforts in the implementation of “The Transformation Agenda of the WHO Secretariat in the African Region - 2015-2020” have started to yield positive results. This is evidenced in part, by the successful completion of the country functional reviews, and the implementation of recommendations thereof; the re-
port of the ‘Independent Expert Oversight Advisory Committee’ which indicated progress in reducing overdue reports for direct financial cooperation (DFCs); reduction in the overdue donor reports in the Region from 39% in July 2017 to 3% by December 2018; and the reduction in the time taken to detect outbreaks from a regional median of 17 days in 2016 to 4 days in 2019, as well as the reduction in the time taken to control outbreaks from a median of 418 days in 2016 to 40 days in 2019, to name but a few.

In conclusion, Botswana wishes to express its gratitude to the Africa Region for the confidence and the trust that they have placed in Dr. Moeti’s leadership by overwhelmingly nominating her for re-appointment, and to the members of the Executive Board for appointing her.

We urge the African member states to work with the regional office to ensure that the second tour of the Regional Director yields even better results for the region and the entire WHO family.

I thank you.