**Item 15.1 Doc 146/16 IOAC WHE**

We would like to thank the Independent oversight and advisory committee for the report and support the recommendations included.

We appreciate the WHO’s leadership in health emergency situations, especially given the simultaneous challenges and increase in the number of complex emergencies around the world.

With the growing need for assistance around the world, it is vital to have an effective tool for **prioritizing and coordinating efforts** to develop solutions and operational capacity for the work of the WHE program. We would like to support the IOAC recommendation in this regard.

We also support the recommendation to facilitate better engagement with non-state actors that are partners with proven records in disaster relief, while respecting the principles of the Framework of engagement with non-State actors (FENSA). We support the IOAC recommendation to develop such a policy as part of implementing FENSA and a systematic workflow applicable to all, and to make staff aware of it and use it to facilitate critical emergency responses.

Israel also propose for consideration instituting an annual questionnaire regarding emergency preparedness. This year, a new IHR questionnaire was released specifically addressing emergency preparedness, creating redundancies. This matter is better addressed with a single, annual follow-up can be far more efficient.

We support WHO’s continuous investment and innovation in technology for health information and epidemiological data management. We will be very interested in learning on the use of the newly launched software tool ‘Go.Data’ supporting outbreak data management in field operations and recently deployed in the Ebola response. We will be happy to participate in further developing this important tool.

Thank you.

**Item 15.2 Doc 146/17 WHO’s work in emergencies**

Thank you, Chair. We thank the secretariat for this report.

As the work of WHO in emergencies grows and becomes central to international cooperation and coordination facing global health challenges, so grows the need to have a more comprehensible and detailed reporting of this work. The budget for 2020-21 allocates to the WHE program and to work in emergencies through the health cluster a third of the total activity of WHO. (close to $2 billion).
We support the proposal to expand the scope of the report presented under this item and to have it include reports on all aspects of work concerning emergencies, including preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation of the health system after crisis and on WHO’s role as the health cluster lead in humanitarian emergencies.

We would like to support the increased focus on preparedness at the country level. WHO does, and should continue to guide countries in their national preparedness plans, including through the WHO Emergency Medical Teams (EMT) initiative. It is instrumental both to provide support through capacity building to assure that national response in times of crisis meets high quality standards, as well as provide much needed coordination in times of crises.

As an active member of this initiative we would like to recommend strengthening the Emergency Medical Teams Initiative secretariat in Headquarters to support their efforts to manage an effective network with the national focal points, both for informative and operational purposes. Another recommendation on this issue is creating regional networks to facilitate quick and effective response.

This is just one of the needed activities in preparedness. WHE’s work in developing strategic response and operation plans with national health authorities, improving surveillance and community commitment for early detection of outbreaks and vaccination campaigns, all together require a dedicated team and the support of senior management, to assure the best handling of emergencies when they occur.

Understanding the wish to concentrate efforts of preparedness, WHO became a global leader when facing health threats and emergency health situations. We commend the work done to fight the Ebola outbreak and the quick response facing these days the nouvelle coronavirus. This must continue as an important part of WHO’s role in the international arena, assuring the most effective guidance and assistance will be provided.

Thank you for your attention.