We would like to thank the legal department for the work done preparing this report and the Ambassador of Brazil for leading the process last year. We have a few comments for consideration:

1. We welcome the introduction of a trial period for implementation of the guidelines and the reporting proposal\(^1\).

2. The unofficial status of the statements should be made clear. We propose adding a disclaimer on the webpage, in the spirit of the one on the WHA page for MS statements in the committees. We propose including in the disclaimer the language used in annex 1 in paragraphs 1, 8, and 12: on the purpose, addressing the responsibility of the submitting MS, and on the use of WHO logo. They all refer to the status of the statements.

3. Second, it is important to address the possible presentation of controversial content. The term “offensive language” in para 9 is subjective and does not have one definition. We suggest adding based on language presented in annex 2 “MS may bring a breach of this guideline to the attention of the secretariat, to be addressed on an ad hoc basis”.

4. With regard to translation (para.7), we think it is important to provide translation of the statements to allow MS to access the information. We suggest strengthening the expectation from MS and replacing “may provide translations” with “MS are encouraged to provide translation to at least one more UN official language” as mentioned in annex 2. We also suggest deleting the words “if they so wish”.

5. It is not clear if a written statement can only complement a statement made during the session, or if it can be submitted without an intervention from the floor\(^2\). We support focusing on the complementary to interventions type.

Given the concerns raised, we would like suggest approval of the guidelines in the next EB session.

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\(^1\) [If the trial period is 2 years, the report will be submitted to the 150\(^{th}\) session (not the 149\(^{th}\) session)].

\(^2\) [The goal specified in para 1 and 10 suggests that written statements should “complement the statement”, but para 1 also describes an option to submit a statement independently.]