Statement of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Dear Mr Chair,

We welcome the report of the Secretariat on epilepsy and the 2019 WHO-ILAE-IBE Global Report “Epilepsy as a public health imperative”, which highlights the evidences on the burden of epilepsy, the impact of stigma, discrimination, the risk of premature death, and the need of effective treatment for people with epilepsy.

It is tremendously important to reduce the gaps in epilepsy care and to improve it worldwide; we highlight the need for the WHO Technical Policy Brief on Epilepsy, including a set of essential immediate actions to strengthen country actions against epilepsy and its comorbidities.

Kazakhstan is committed to support actions towards Epilepsy locally and globally. In Kazakhstan we developed and implemented the National Plan for epilepsy with the focus on the implementation of epilepsy care into the primary care. Kazakhstan also co-sponsored Side Event on Epilepsy at the World Health Assembly last year.

Taking into account the comorbidities of epilepsy and the most frequent neurological disorders and benefits of the synergy of preventive and treatment strategies, we support the Proposal by the Russian Federation, China and Guyana and ready to be co-sponsor of the Draft of Decision on Epilepsy. Thank you.