Executive Board 146 Sessions, Geneva, 3-8th February 2020

Agenda item 15.2 EB146/17

Public Health Emergencies preparedness and response

WHO’s Work in Health Emergencies

Intervention

Chair,

Sri Lanka acknowledges the report on public health emergencies, preparedness and response by WHO DG and appreciates IOAC for their comprehensive report presented today.

At the outset, the Government of Sri Lanka would like to appreciate the contribution of WHO for the sound and timely inputs in making the health emergencies a priority in the overall health agenda. In addition, Sri Lanka has benefited from the South East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) during the dengue epidemic in the year 2017. Similarly other countries in the region have benefited from South East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund. Further, member states have extensively integrated such concepts and strategies to enhance the emergency preparedness and response capacity in their countries.

We appreciate initiating the South East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund, and thankful to the Director General – WHO and Regional Director – SEARO, for this timely initiative.

Thank you.