Sweden welcomes the proposal for the Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020-2030, and aligns itself with the statement made by Germany on behalf of the EU and its Member States.

Ageing is a natural part of life. However, ageing does not have to mean illness and frailty - it is possible to strengthen health and postpone disabilities through health promotion and disease prevention efforts. Such measures can improve the quality of life, as well as contribute to lower societal costs for health and social care.

We need to ensure that aging means maintaining independence for as long as possible. For elderly to be fully integrated and able to participate in society it is essential to ensure that health and social care services are tailored to the elderly’s needs, and to counter all forms of discrimination due to age or disability. Furthermore, care offered should be equal, regardless of where you live.

Sweden welcomes that the vision for the Decade of Healthy Ageing links to the Madrid International Plan of Action and Ageing, and reflects the pledge in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind.
Thank you.