Agenda item 19
Accelerating efforts on Food Safety, Document: 146/25
Report by the Director General

1. **Chairperson**, Tanzania aligns its statement with a statement made by Kenya.

2. We commend the Secretariat for the report, which has highlighted previous resolutions and provided guidance on addressing food safety globally and at regional level, including the jointly established WHO-FAO Codex Alimentarius Commission.

3. We note with concern the increasing burden of food borne events and associated economic costs. Indeed data from the Africa region is likely just a “tip of an ice-berg”, as we don’t have strong systems to capture comprehensively food borne events. Further, this is the region where Food Safety is among the technical areas with significant deficiencies. There are inadequate effective public policies and institutions to provide regulatory oversight; there are few trained personnel to carry out food safety activities and there are limited food testing laboratories.

4. This report calls for a renewed commitment and prioritization of key food safety initiatives. With the threat of AMR, this makes it even more important to elevate food safety agenda in the Africa Regional Bodies meetings.

5. We welcome para 20 and 21, which summarize on how new challenges can be addressed by Member states.

6. Lastly, we support adoption of the proposed resolution which calls for a renewed momentum to address Food safety.

7. *I thank you*