

World Health Organization (WHO): Seventy-Fourth World Health Assembly (74th WHA)

Agenda Item 13.1 Global action on patient safety

Agenda Item 13.5 Antimicrobial resistance

Agenda Item 13.8 Immunization Agenda 2030

(Word Count: 481)



Chair,

India is committed towards patient safety as an area of paramount concern and action.

India recognizes WHO's efforts to chalk out the first draft of global patient safety action plan 2021–2030 and has taken a number of steps for patient safety starting with National Patient Safety Framework, developed with the goal to improve patient safety at all levels of health care, to progress faster towards UHC in coming decade.

Furthermore, an oversight mechanism has also been established in the form of National Patient Safety Steering Committee to deal with patient safety issues like personal protection, health worker safety, medication safety and patient engagement.

Given the urgent nature of the current crisis, India believes that it is crucial for WHO to provide technical support and rapidly scale up the global patient safety network to ensure sharing of approaches, best practices and necessary tools amongst key stakeholders.

Chair,

India is cognizant of the potential threats of antimicrobial resistance and is committed to tackling the issue. Aligned with the Global action plan, India's National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (NAP-AMR) focuses on 6 strategic priorities – Awareness and Understanding, Knowledge and Evidence; Infection Prevention and Control ; Optimising use of antimicrobials; Investments, Innovations, Research and Development ; and Collaborations, all under the higher vision and mission of an integrated “one health approach” involving multilevel coordination among various sectors, in addition to human health sector.

India supports the development of guidelines and policies at different tiers of health care for infection prevention and control to prevent the spread of AMR and encourages transparent and traceable supply chain logistics for antimicrobials, including prescription auditing. AMR is a priority concern for India, and we believe that One Health Approach needs to be seen as a priority area by WHO.

Chair,

India recognizes the significance of Immunization Agenda 2030 and is currently working towards providing protection against 12 deadly vaccine preventable diseases through our Universal Immunization Programme. Six new vaccines have been introduced in the last decade.

In vulnerable, resistant, and inaccessible populations, immunization is being strengthened through Mission Indradhanush - flagship immunization programme of India to boost and sustain immunization coverage. Under various phases of Mission Indradhanush, nearly 38.6 million children and 9.6 million pregnant women have been vaccinated since 2014.

Chair,

The country has made consistent efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic towards addressing the gaps that might have emerged in routine immunization, surveillance of vaccine preventable diseases and Pulse polio immunization.

In light of the pandemic, India believes that the Member States should focus on using this opportunity to build robust cold chain mechanisms and digital vaccine tracking and monitoring systems to streamline the vaccine logistics supply.

With 3 covid-19 vaccines currently available - domestically produced, Covaxin and Covishield and recently introduced Sputnik V, India has administered a total of 196 million doses so far, thus making greater progress towards Immunization Agenda 2030.

Thank You.