



## REPUBLIC OF KENYA

### 150<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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**National Statement on Agenda 8, 9 & 10:** 8. Global health sector strategies on, respectively, HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections; Global strategy for tuberculosis research and innovation; and, Road map for neglected tropical diseases 2021–2030

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#### Thank you Chair

1. Kenya aligns her statement with that delivered by Madagascar on behalf of the Member States of the WHO Africa Region.
2. Kenya thanks the Director General for developing the global health sector strategies on HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections for the period 2022–2030, as part of global efforts to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal target 3.3.
3. In line with the proposed strategic directions, Kenya agrees with the aspirational goal of ending epidemics and advancing universal health coverage, primary health care and health security by putting an end to AIDS and the epidemics of viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections by 2030.
4. With regard to HIV, Kenya is currently conducting a Population-based HIV Impact Assessment study to generate evidence on HIV prevalence and trends. We have also integrated provision of HIV services with reproductive health services to implement testing for syphilis, hepatitis B and HIV for all women attending ante-natal clinics.

5. **Chair**, turning now to the implementation of the global strategy for tuberculosis research and innovation, Kenya continues to be a high burden country for TB, and we have noted with concern that the national indicators were significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in case finding, diagnosis and treatment.
6. Kenya also notes with concern the significant under-funding for tuberculosis research and development, which has affected the capacity to conduct tuberculosis research, disease burden measurement especially in light of END TB milestones, in addition to accelerating technological breakthroughs and rapid uptake of innovations that are geared towards accelerating progress towards global tuberculosis targets.
7. Regarding the road map for neglected tropical diseases 2021–2030, Kenya notes the Director General’s observations that the Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted implementation of activities for neglected tropical diseases globally, regionally and nationally.
8. Despite this challenge, Kenya has registered remarkable success towards control and elimination of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and is developing its third NTD Master Plan 2021-2025 with a goal of eliminating at least three NTDs by 2030.
9. In support of global and regional efforts, we underscore the need for WHO to accelerate efforts to mobilize additional resources to sustain the implementation of activities in the road map for NTDs. We also wish to see prioritization of actions to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as mapping NTD burden at the country level, for more efficient targeting of interventions.

**I thank you.**