



**Republic of the Marshall Islands**  
**STATEMENT by Mr. Samuel K. Jr. Lanwi, Deputy Permanent Representative**  
**World Health Organization - 150th Executive Board**  
**28 January 2022**  
**Geneva**

**Item 18: WHO's implementation framework for Billion 3**

*Check against delivery*

Director General, Distinguished Colleagues,

At the outset, the Republic of the Marshall Islands wishes to express its deepest condolences, heartfelt sympathies and support to the government and people of our fellow Pacific SIDS, the Kingdom of Tonga, for the devastation caused by the recent volcanic eruption and subsequent tsunami.

The Marshall Islands would like to thank Cabo Verde, Fiji and Vanuatu for presenting the draft resolution titled: "Outcome of the SIDS Summit for Health: For a healthy and resilient future in small island developing states." Due to some technical issues, we were not able to register our cosponsorship on time. Therefore, we take this opportunity to formally convey our support and endorsement of the draft resolution.

It is undeniable that SIDS are faced with distinct health issues that pose a disproportionate burden on our communities, ranging from the COVID-19 pandemic, the impacts of climate change on health, nutrition and the prevention of NCDs, and universal health coverage and primary health care.

It is therefore crucial to highlight the urgent health threats and needs of small island developing States as highlighted in the SIDS Summit for Health Outcome and to strengthen Member States collaboration and partnership in this regard.

In closing, the Marshall Islands wishes to extend its most sincere gratitude once again to the WHO and the numerous donor countries and partners such as the United States and the Republic of China (Taiwan), for their continued support and assistance to the Marshall Islands.

Kommol tata and I thank you.