

150th Session of the WHO Executive Board
Address of Slovakia
Agenda Item 15.1,15.2

Dear Mr Chair,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Slovakia aligns itself with the statement of France on behalf of the EU and its Member States under the agenda items 15.1, 15.2.

Slovakia would like to express its gratitude to the WHO Secretariat for the hard work in the field of Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies in consultation with Member States.

We would like to reiterate our support for the idea of setting up a new EB subcommittee on health emergencies, aimed at optimal oversight by Member States of WHO's work in health emergencies and help in reducing the gap between recommendations and their implementation, strengthening the global governance of acute health crises. We would like to express our interest to join the group of cosponsors of the respective decision.

Moreover, we would like to make a few remarks on the EB report 150/15, point 28.

Slovakia welcomes very much the initiation of IHR amendment process.

We perceive the establishment of IHR Unified System of Information and Reporting a high necessity in order to secure an agile global response, whenever needed.

Alongside, we support regular external evaluations of emergency preparedness in the Member States.

While expressing our readiness for engaging closely in the process of pandemic instrument negotiations as well as recognising its utmost importance, we consider essential to emphasize the need for the timely calibration of the IHR, independently, but in coherence with the future pandemic instrument.

Thank you.