



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

**152nd Session of the WHO Executive Board
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Pilar	2	One billion more people better protected from health emergencies
Agenda	13	Poliomyelitis

Thank you, Chair,

The Philippines continues to align itself with the goals of the Polio Eradication Strategy 2022-2026. The guidance of the Executive Board on mobilizing the financial resources, the identification of ways to reach zero-dose children, and the feedback on the Polio Transition and Post Certification Strategic Action Plan are all critical to ensuring that country efforts towards sustaining polio-free status and building resilient immunization systems are in support of the eradication initiatives globally.

The integration polio vaccination with COVID-19 vaccination and in multi-antigen immunization has been on the country’s pipeline to improving service delivery and reaching unimmunized individuals in the country.

In order to address the increasing number of zero-dose children for routine vaccines, including polio, the Philippines conducted several intensified catch-up immunization campaigns aiming to vaccinate those who were born during the COVID-19 pandemic. This complements the institutionalization of the guidelines in the conduct of routine catch-up immunization.

The country is geared towards polio post-certification following the national implementation of the 2-dose inactivated polio vaccine (IPV). Currently, both the bivalent Oral Polio Vaccine (bOPV) and IPV are part of routine immunization in the Philippines. The cessation of bOPV use in the Philippines is included in the key milestones of the Multi-disease Elimination Plan currently being developed.

The Philippines reaffirms its commitment to the complete eradication of polio globally and supports activities in line with the Polio Eradication Strategy 2022-2026.**END**