

Item23.2**Global strategies and plans of action that are scheduled to expire within one year**

The Republic of Korea would like to express our gratitude to the Secretariat for the report on the global implementation of 'WHO traditional medicine strategy: 2014 - 2023.' We would like to hold in high regards the endeavors of WHO to sufficiently leverage the potential of traditional and complementary medicine over the past decade in a drive to achieve UHC and promote the health of the humanity. We would also like to hold in high esteem Member States' systematic progress as indicated in the report.

For the past decade, the Republic of Korea has made domestic and international efforts to implement 'WHO traditional medicine strategy: 2014 - 2023.' Domestically, we have been operating a comprehensive policy and regulatory scheme that encompasses education, license and health insurance for traditional and complementary medicine. In addition, with the aim of establishing a systematic development strategy nationwide, we have been establishing and operating 'Comprehensive Plan for Korean Traditional Medicine Development/Promotion' anew every 5 years since 2006. The Republic of Korea has also been conducting large-scale national R&D to establish the grounds for safety and efficacy of Korean traditional medicine. In particular, keeping in mind that Clinical Practice Guideline is the final product that builds upon such clinical evidence, we have been developing and sophisticating Standard Clinical Practice Guideline for Korean

Traditional Medicine since 2016. Furthermore, in an attempt to apply technological advances such as AI, big data and digital health to traditional and complementary medicine, we are compiling big data on clinical information for traditional medicine while working towards developing standard EMR for Korean traditional medicine.

In the meantime, the Republic of Korea has spared no effort in global implementation of the 'WHO traditional medicine strategy: 2014 - 2023.' Via the 'WHO Collaborating Center for Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine', we have been providing annual on-the-job lab training since 2018 for WPRO Member States' government officials and experts to build capacities for traditional medicine quality management. In 2022, we jointly held international conference with WHO to share and expand the status quo of laws, regulations, and research outcomes on traditional and complementary medicine with countries around the world. The Republic of Korea also provided active support in the development of 'The Global Framework for Harnessing Traditional and Complementary Medicine for Achieving Health and Wellbeing', which is a new regional document on traditional medicine endorsed by the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific in 2021.

However, despite international efforts to implement the strategies, progress has not been evenly distributed among the 6 regions of WHO. As the Secretariat previously reported, Member States are having difficulties building foundation for research and establishing legal/regulatory systems amidst insufficient resources for traditional

and complementary medicine. Keeping this in mind, WHO should strengthen policy and technical support to help Member States integrate traditional and complementary medicine into healthcare system.

The Republic of Korea hopes WHO could build on Member States' achievements and devise a new Strategy for the next 10 year, which takes new technologies and future healthcare environment into account, and help Member States address their challenges. The Republic of Korea will actively cooperate in developing the new Strategy by tapping into our accumulated experience and expertise.

In this regard, the Republic of Korea would like to propose that the Director General initiate the development of the new traditional medicine strategy for the next decade, which reflects Member States' demand and needs in terms of traditional and complementary medicine, and submit the draft to the 78th World Health Assembly in 2025 through the 156th session of the Executive Board.