



**152ième session du Conseil exécutif de l'OMS
30 janvier au 7 février 2023**

Written Statement submitted by Switzerland

Item 16: Social Determinants of Health

Switzerland thanks the Secretariat for the draft outline of the *World Report on Social Determinants of Health Equity* which will be an important Global Public Good. We particularly welcome the reinvigorated narrative, the robust new evidence, the clear call to action, and the guidance on cross-cutting functions.

Switzerland is concerned on the lacking progress to reduce health inequities within countries and on the increasing gap among population groups.

Switzerland remains strongly committed and engaged in the fight against health inequities and will continue its support to the *Special Initiative for Action on Social Determinants of Health for Advancing Health Equity*, which it co-shaped with WHO. We remain concerned that the social determinants of health agenda globally and at WHO, remains chronically underfunded.

We foster cross-sectoral work and remain engaged with stakeholders that are game changers in addressing the root causes of ill-health. Switzerland works different initiatives in this regard, incl.

- Reducing risk factors for infectious diseases and NCDs through health promotion and disease prevention, water and sanitation, or by addressing related policies and regulatory frameworks.
- Building conducive living environments, in both urban and rural settings, for health by fostering a coherent political commitment, as well as social and civic engagement for health.
- Improving health literacy among the population, e.g. by using digital solutions and combatting misinformation as in the case of the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Addressing gender issues, e.g. by applying a gender lens in a pandemic response, both because of gender-based violence and the large proportion of female health workers, child and elderly caregivers.

The operational framework for Monitoring Social Determinants of Health Equity is comprehensive and we particularly appreciate the concrete description of how to overcome barriers of making multisectorial approaches work. We look forward to seeing the framework facilitating implementation of monitoring social determinants of health and thus effective steering of progress to reduce health inequity.