World Health Organization

SEVENTY-SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY **A72/54**
Provisional agenda item 19 **11 April 2019**

2020: International Year of Nursing and Midwifery

Report by the Director-General

1. The Executive Board at its 144th session in January 2019, considered the subject of human resources for health.[1] During discussions, the Board drew attention to the vital role of nurses and midwives in achieving universal health coverage and called for highlighting their contributions. Noting that 2020 was the 200th anniversary of the birth of one of the founders of modern nursing, Florence Nightingale, the Board recommended to the Health Assembly to designate 2020 as the Year of Nursing and Midwifery.

ACTION BY THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY

2. The Health Assembly is invited to adopt the following draft decision:

> The Seventy-second World Health Assembly, having considered document A72/54, decided to designate 2020 as the International Year of Nursing and Midwifery.

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[1] See documents EB144/25 and EB144/26 and the summary records of the Executive Board at its 144th session, twelfth meeting, section 2.