

The Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescent's Health

Intervention by Egypt at the 156th WHO Executive Board Meeting

Distinguished Chair, Honorable Members of the Executive Board, and Esteemed Colleagues, In alignment with the priorities outlined in document EB156/17, Egypt has made significant strides in advancing child, maternal, and adolescent health through targeted initiatives. These efforts reflect our commitment to the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's, and Adolescents' Health and align with WHO's recommendations for achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.

Through comprehensive programs, we are strengthening child health and development. Under the Presidential Initiative for Early Detection of Genetic Diseases, screening for 19 genetic disorders is provided for newborns in neonatal intensive care units, with 548 medical teams trained across governorates. Additionally, therapeutic milk and low-protein foods are supplied to children with metabolic disorders, and a pilot system for automating therapeutic centers has been launched.

To promote better nutrition, the administration of Vitamin A capsules has been updated to align with WHO recommendations, with increased dosage schedules, while efforts to combat iodine deficiency continue through the provision of potassium iodate to salt companies.

Our care for foundling children includes healthcare services across 29 care homes, with data automation systems ensuring better service coordination with the Ministry of Social Solidarity. In women's health, the Presidential Initiative for Maternal and Fetal Health has provided free treatment and healthcare to over 448,000 women, addressing maternal-to-fetal transmitted diseases and reducing maternal mortality rates to 41 deaths per 100,000 live births.

Efforts to combat violence against women include the operationalization of 27 women's safe clinics, with plans for 10 more. These clinics have provided essential services to 577 women and held 480 awareness seminars attended by over 5,200 women.

Egypt has also enhanced healthcare for school-age children through annual comprehensive medical exams, achieving 97% coverage for childhood vaccinations. Collaboration with WHO on the Health Promoting Schools Program has benefited 2.8 million children with diphtheria-tetanus vaccines and 3.2 million children with meningitis vaccines this academic year.

Youth and adolescent-friendly clinics, in collaboration with UNFPA, have been expanded, with capacity-building programs training 273 healthcare providers. These clinics provide holistic care to adolescents and foster community participation to address their specific health needs.

These initiatives demonstrate Egypt's commitment to improving maternal, child, and adolescent health by integrating WHO's strategies into national frameworks. We are dedicated to working closely with WHO and member states to achieve global health objectives.

Thank you.