



Statement by Finland

WHO EB156

Agenda item 22 Climate change and health

Thank you Chair,

Finland aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

A common factor behind several health emergencies are the environmental changes, such as climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, water scarcity and changes in land use. We are inevitably beginning to witness these threats taking a concrete form, more frequent extreme weather events, droughts, wildfires, flooding and landslides, and increased vector borne diseases. Understanding and acting upon these challenges to safeguard our health calls for strong collaboration across sectors and across borders.

Our capability to survive different disasters depends on the health and wellbeing of people. Improving resilience, epidemic preparedness, public health and health equity of people, especially the most vulnerable, should be our common priorities.

Investments in health protection and health promotion, especially at the community level, benefit both people and the planet. Furthermore, we must promote sustainable diets and curb the environmental impact of the healthcare sector as a contributor to global emissions.

Our efforts should promote the overarching goal of maintaining and enhancing planetary health. Our collective responsibility is to protect the health of the current population as well as the future generations.

Thank you.
