

156th Session of WHO Executive Board Meeting

3rd to 11th February 2025, Geneva



**Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India**

Intervention by India

Agenda Item 23.1: Financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2024–2025

Thank you chair,

India acknowledges the significance of the Programme Budget 2024-2025 to advance the WHO's ambitious 'Triple Billion Targets,' while ensuring continuity, stability, and a strategic focus in the final stages of GPW 13's implementation.

India welcomes the Secretariat's initiative to transition towards web-based reporting for country offices. This approach will not only enhance transparency and accessibility of crucial information but also streamline data management.

Chair,

We appreciate the comprehensive framework for assessing progress and ensuring accountability in achieving sustainable financing provided by the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) outlined in the report.

We are however of the view that it is important to examine specific overlaps, such as the potential duplication between KPI4 and KPI7, which both appear to address the theme of "donor reliance", to avoid redundancy and enhance clarity and efficiency in the accountability framework.

To address the challenges encountered in achieving progress on certain KPIs, we recommend a multi-pronged approach. This, without saying, includes encouraging Member States to fulfill their assessed contribution obligations for the current biennium in accordance with the agreed-upon scale of assessment. Furthermore, aligning health priorities with realistic and sustainable financing options, particularly for high-priority outputs through collaborative action, innovative financing mechanisms, and strategic allocation of available resources is crucial.

Given possible budget cuts due to certain donor Contributions not materializing for the year 2025, there is also a need to reimagine efficiency in a manner that WHO focusses on its core competencies while imparting adequate training and capacity building, so that the respective countries lead their programmes.

Chair,

India also urges SEARO region to expedite fund utilization in accordance with the approved Programme Budget 2024-2025, ensure timely implementation of planned initiatives and maximize the impact of resource allocation towards achieving the region's health priorities and the broader objectives of the Programme Budget.

As a key contributor to global health initiatives, India continues to support emphasis on sustainable financing and collaborative action to address pressing global health challenges. We also urge Secretariat to continue exploring resource mobilization and expand the donor base.

Thank You!