

Statement on Behalf of the Republic of Moldova at the 156th Executive Board Session

Provisional Agenda Item 15: WHO's work in health emergencies and update on the response to major ongoing health emergencies

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Moldova recognizes the crucial role WHO plays in providing rapid and coordinated responses to health emergencies across the globe and we commend WHO's tireless efforts in direct response to crises.

Moldova aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and would like to speak now in national capacity.

The widespread impact of emergencies requires continued global cooperation and a prioritized allocation mobilization of resources. Moldova remains deeply concerned about the increasing humanitarian needs resulting from these crises, considering Russia's illegal and unjustified war in Ukraine and the refugee crises caused by it.

Our country is acutely aware of the toll that health emergencies take on national health systems. Together with WHO and partners we can effectively respond to crises, as we learned going through permacrisis since 2021.

On the issue of WHO's financing, we call all interested parties to urgently contribute to securing sustainable and predictable funding for the Health Emergencies Programme. We encourage all Member States to contribute to the WHO Contingency Fund for Emergencies and other financing mechanisms to ensure WHO can carry on its vital mandate and support saving lives of people affected by crises.

We firmly support the WHO's commitment to fostering preparedness and resilience at the country, regional, and global levels, and we believe that greater collaboration with Member States and partners is vital to ensure efficient, effective, and equitable responses.

We encourage Member States to embrace the regional and global agendas, such as WHO's EURO Preparedness 2.0 and WHO's Framework Strengthening the global

architecture for health emergency prevention, preparedness, response and resilience. We hope that the upcoming consultations of WHO'S European Programme of Work 2 will accelerate the implementation of the abovementioned strategies.

We thank WHO and other international partners for the vital partnership that enabled us to progress in the preparedness domain. We welcome other countries to take an example of our preparedness efforts – soon, we will undergo a second Joint External Evaluation, where we hope to see incremental improvement in our health security system.

I thank you for your attention.