

Written statement by Iceland

WHO, Executive Board 158th session (EB158)

Agenda items 23 and 26 - Agenda item 23: Well-being and health promotion and 26: Economics of health for all

Iceland appreciates WHO's leadership on the well-being agenda and on the Economics of Health for All. Iceland aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union under agenda item 26 and supports the draft decision, as well as continued cooperation with the Secretariat and partners.

We share the emphasis on policy coherence across sectors and the recognition that strong, equitable and resilient health systems are essential investments for inclusive and sustainable economies. We welcome the focus on whole-of-government approaches, equity, social participation and gender equality, and the understanding of health not as a cost but as an investment that supports participation, productivity and social cohesion.

Iceland sees the work under agenda items 23 and 26 as distinct but closely aligned and mutually reinforcing. Together, the well-being framework and the Economics of Health for All strategy provide a coherent and practical basis for integrating health considerations into public policies, strengthening prevention, and advancing long-term population health, trust and prosperity. We also note the important contribution of the WHO Regional Office for Europe in advancing this work through evidence, policy tools and country collaboration.