

158th Session of WHO Executive Board Meeting

2nd to 7th February 2026, Geneva



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

Intervention by India

Agenda Item 10: Primary healthcare

(Word Count: 166)

Thank you chair,

India acknowledges WHO's continued focus and commitment to Primary Health Care (PHC) oriented reforms.

With the operationalization of nearly 183 thousand Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (Health and Wellness Centres) across the country, India is significantly reinforcing its primary health care system, enabled by the delivery of a comprehensive package of essential services, including free drugs and diagnostics.

Based on our experience with Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, we emphasize driving primary healthcare towards delivering preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative care, as a vital step to accelerate our progress towards attaining UHC. We also underscore the importance of leveraging digital platforms to improve efficiency and ensure every investment yields maximum health returns.

Chair

India recommends expanding implementation research and evaluation to guide adaptive PHC reforms and strengthen system performance. Periodic updates of the UHC Service Coverage Index will help Member States identify gaps in service delivery access. Furthermore, promoting a whole-of-government approach will be essential to address persisting challenges in implementing the PHC approach.

Thank you!