

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 16: WHO's work in health emergencies

(Word Count: 136)

Thank you chair,

India emphasizes that WHO's strategic prioritization must remain firmly country-centred, risk-informed and equity-driven, with adequate resources directed to high-burden and high-risk settings, by strengthening early warning, surveillance and incident management capacities.

India suggests that WHO's reliance on national and local actors, including civil society and community-based organizations, is essential to safeguard the continuity of essential health services in complex humanitarian contexts and to ensure that vulnerable populations are not left behind, even with limited available resources.

Chair

India underscores the importance of balancing immediate emergency response with sustained investments in health security systems. Emergency responses may be structured systematically to support the development of lasting capacities such

as trained health workforce, resilient supply chains, laboratory networks, digital surveillance and One Health platforms aligned with the International Health Regulations (2005) and the Sendai Framework.

Thank you!