

**158<sup>th</sup> Session of WHO Executive Board Meeting**

**2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026, Geneva**



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

**Intervention by India**

**Agenda Item 17: Strengthening the evidence base for public health and social measures**

**(Word Count: 131)**

**Thank you chair,**

Recognizing that evidence-informed, proportionate and context-specific public health and social measures are essential for effective preparedness, response and recovery during public health emergencies, India supports the proposed actions outlined in the report to strengthen the evidence base for Public Health Social Measures (PHSM).

**Chair**

Drawing on India's COVID-19 experience, we emphasize the importance of evidence-informed, context-specific PHSM. India recommends strengthening multidisciplinary research that integrates epidemiological, behavioural and socio-economic evidence.

**Chair**

India also encourages the development of standardized methodologies and indicators to assess the effectiveness, equity and cost–benefit of public health and social measures and underscores

the importance of sustained capacity-building support, particularly for low- and middle-income countries.

India calls for continued technical assistance, practical guidance tools and the strengthening of a global PHSM evidence repository.

**Thank you!**