

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 9: Universal health coverage: Draft global strategy for integrated emergency, critical and operative care, 2026–2035, Increasing availability, ethical access and oversight of transplantation of human cells, tissues and organs, Rare diseases: a global health priority for equity and inclusion

(Word Count: 162)

Thank you chair,

India welcomes the Draft Global Strategy for Integrated Emergency, Critical and Operative Care (2026–2035) and supports its adoption under Universal Health Coverage. Further, India remains firmly committed to its implementation.

Chair

India supports the development of the global strategy of human cells, tissues and organs and emphasizes the need for prioritizing hospital-based deceased donation programmes, building a robust transplant coordinator workforce, enhancing data transparency and establishing guidelines to safeguard against exploitation, while also addressing emerging ethical challenges related to donation after circulatory death and xenotransplantation.

Chair

India emphasizes the urgent need to prioritize the development of Global Normative Standards for the diagnosis and management of rare diseases, ensuring that standardized, evidence-based protocols are adaptable to resource-constrained settings.

Recognizing that early intervention is the most cost-effective means to reduce morbidity and childhood mortality, India calls for the 10-year Global Action Plan to explicitly include a dedicated workstream on Universal Newborn Screening (NBS) and genomic diagnostic capacity building.

Thank you!