

The United Republic of Tanzania



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING WHO's work in health emergencies: Agenda Item 16:

Chairperson, Tanzania commends the Director-General for the report which confirms that health emergencies are now a constant global challenge requiring stronger preparedness, solidarity, and coordinated action.

Tanzania aligns strongly with the focus on country-centred response, the Incident Management System, and rapid financing through the Contingency Fund for Emergencies, which are vital to saving lives.

We appreciate WHO's close collaboration with Tanzania during the 2025 Marburg virus disease outbreak, where early detection, rapid grading, immediate contingency funding, and deployment of technical expertise enabled a swift and effective response. This experience reaffirmed that preparedness, supported by timely financing and solidarity, works.

However, the report highlights a serious concern: the US\$1.3 billion financing gap in the WHO Health Emergencies Programme and the critically depleted Contingency Fund threaten our collective readiness for future crises. As health emergencies know no borders or income levels, underfunding preparedness today will lead to far greater human and economic costs tomorrow.

Tanzania therefore calls on Member States to urgently close the financing gap and replenish the Contingency Fund; sustain investment in national health security systems; protect health care in conflict and crisis settings in line with international humanitarian law; and strengthen solidarity with the most affected countries, particularly in Africa and humanitarian settings.

Chairperson, Tanzania remains committed to working with WHO and Member States to strengthen preparedness and protect our communities during health emergencies.
I thank you.