

United Kingdom written statement for grouped Items 12,13,14,15

The UK welcomes these reports.

The Global Code of Practice remains central to ethical international recruitment and we agree it must evolve to address today's realities including clearer guidance and flexibility on the Safeguards List, and stronger data and accountability.

We support WHO-led consultations to refine the proposed additions ahead of the Health Assembly, ensuring they remain practical and proportionate. We encourage partnership approaches that maximize mutual benefits, including voluntary co-investment, capacity building and improved workforce retention in source countries with donor agencies, global health initiatives and financial institutions being led by the priorities identified by country partners.

The UK also welcomes the updated global action plan on antimicrobial resistance. Revising the GAP was an important commitment that emerged from the 2024 High Level Meeting to accelerate global action on AMR. We thank the WHO for aligning the GAP with commitments made in the 2024 Political Declaration.

The updated GAP reflects renewed ambition, particularly in strengthening governance and embedding One Health principles. We note stronger guidance on surveillance, access, and innovation, alongside recognition of the need for sustainable financing and capacity building. For effective implementation we emphasise the importance of clear monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and would like to see explicit guidance on conflict settings.

The UK remains committed to global AMR leadership and stands ready to work with WHO, the Quadripartite, and Member States to implement the GAP. Ambition must be matched by practical delivery, robust accountability, and inclusive governance.

Finally, on the harmonization of regulatory approaches for data, digital health and AI, the UK thanks the WHO Secretariat for its work in supporting Member States to digitise health systems. Data and digital transformation are essential for building resilient health systems and achieving UHC.

The UK strongly supports the report's focus on interoperability. We are among several Member States transitioning from ICD-10 to ICD-11, using SNOMED CT as our national clinical terminology. Effective global interoperability requires convergence at the ontology level, not only alignment through mappings. As Member States modernise their health information systems and transition to ICD-11 while using clinical terminologies such as SNOMED CT, semantic unification becomes a system necessity rather than a national preference. We ask WHO to acknowledge the importance of harmonisation at the ontology level, enabling either ICD-11 or SNOMED CT to serve as a common foundation for health data. We further encourage the report to highlight the

need for joint stewardship, flexible governance, and continued international participation to support collaboration between WHO and SNOMED International.

We underline the importance of global alignment in developing the Global Strategy on Digital Health 2028–2033, building on progress already achieved through other multilateral initiatives, such as the Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP). We strongly support the open government and evidence-based approach proposed in the report, while maintaining territorial sovereignty and allowing Member States the flexibility to develop strategies tailored to local needs. Our global priorities should include AI governance, interoperability, digital inclusion, and cyber security.