Distinguished President,

Director-General!

Honorable Ministers, Ambassadors!

It is my great pleasure to address you at the 73rd (seventy-third) session of the World Health Assembly dedicated to the issue of Global response to COVID-19 pandemics.

I would like to express our gratitude and full support to the World Health Organization and its Director-General Dr. Tedros for the leading role in combating COVID-19 globally.

We thank WHO for all technical guidances in preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19, risk communication and community engagement and other critical topics.
Kazakhstan has taken tremendous efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 and now we are focusing on transition by mitigating restriction measures. At the same time, we are taking actions to robust the health system for the possible second wave of COVID-19 by integrating primary health care into the overall public health response to COVID-19.

The role of PHC is crucial in informing patients and community about COVID-19, interrupting the chain of transmission and identifying vulnerable population groups as well as ensuring appropriate referral for testing, home isolation and hospital admission.

The other important issue is a broader use of digital technologies and development of a Digital Health eco system, which provide us new possibilities during the challenging time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Digitalization of public health surveillance, laboratories and PHC has been played an important
role in Kazakhstan COVID-19 response to take timely and right actions.

On the last session of the WHO Executive Board, Kazakhstan initiated a Decision on primary health care to adopt the operational framework on PHC that was supported by all Member-States.

I once again want to highlight the importance of strengthening primary health care, which is playing a major role in eradication of current pandemic and prevention of other infectious diseases.

We need to stay on track of the principle of UHC and basic role of PHC.

Dear colleagues,

The whole world, Member States, international organizations and other stakeholders need to combine efforts to provide people with safe, effective and affordable vaccine, tests and treatments.
We express our highest appreciation and support to the dedication, efforts and sacrifices of all health professionals, health workers and other relevant frontline workers.

Only together, we can win!

Biz Birgemiz!

Rakhmet!

Thank you!