

# World Health Organisation (WHO): Seventy-Third World Health Assembly (73rd WHA)

*Agenda 18.1: Programme Budget 2020-2021*



## **Thank you, Chair**

India supports the concept that the Triple Billion Targets are inter-connected and we believe that these targets, along with the UN Sustainable Development Goals should be the driving force behind the process of WHO's impact measurement system.

India would like to emphasize the grave importance of implementing policies that strengthen organizational and financial accountability. In line with these objectives, India advocates the need of higher involvement of Member States in discussions on budget implementation and spending, with greater focus on efficiency and transparency in financial flows.

Envisioning a new era of Universal Health Coverage, improvements in health and well-being as well as protecting our populations from health emergencies, India has been working relentlessly towards the achievement of the **Triple Billion targets**.

We would like to highlight the importance of financial protection to mitigate any risks in access to affordable healthcare, in line with achieving **Universal Health Coverage** through our flagship Ayushman Bharat Programme.

We also recognize the fact that improving health and well-being requires multi-sectoral interventions such as access to clean water and sanitation, nutrition, focus on mental health as well as reducing gender and income inequalities and promoting **healthy living habits**.

India's Universal Immunization Program (IUP), the largest immunization program in the world involving 27 million new-born infants and 29 million women annually, makes 12 Vaccine Preventable Diseases free around the country, safeguarding citizens against various **health emergencies**.

**Chair,**

We recognize the importance of monitoring various key performance indicators to measure the progress made towards the achievement of the intended targets. In this context, India would like to draw the attention of the WHO to the concerns regarding the gaps in data reporting and transparency of information flows as well as any shortfalls in the health information system capacity. Moreover, we would also like to place emphasis on the need of a more inclusive system of decision making, with increased involvement of Member Nations, and higher focus on enhancing cost efficiencies and value for money proposition.

We believe that addressing such concerns is important if we want to fast track the implementation of Thirteenth General Programme of Work, 2019–2023 WHO Impact Framework as well as the respective programmes and policies of the respective Member States.

**Thank You.**