

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

Agenda 18.2: Financing and implementation of the Programme budget 2018-2019 and outlook on financing of the Programme budget 2020-2021



Thank you, Chair.

India would like to emphasize the significance of the integrity of the financial statements and need to maintain cost efficiency in the financial flows with respect to the various components of the programme budget.

India firmly believes in the importance of working towards the objective of Universal Health Coverage, in line with the higher vision of WHO, and has successfully fast-tracked various initiatives in this direction.

India has introduced National Digital Health Mission (NDHM), to significantly improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency of health service delivery. This will enable us to take a major step towards the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3.8 of Universal Health Coverage, including financial risk protection.

Ayushman Bharat, another successful undertaking, focusing on preventative healthcare, aims at achieving the 3As (Affordability, Accessibility and Availability) of healthcare. The scheme provides an insurance cover to approximately 100 million families (500 million beneficiaries), making it one of the biggest health insurance scheme in the world.

Chair.

In light of the Covid Pandemic, due to an increase in resources redirected towards health emergencies, India urges the Organisation as well as Member Nations to ensure that other essential healthcare functions are not overlooked in our ongoing battle against COVID19.

Together we have to ensure that we take a graded and proactive approach to combat the twin challenges of addressing any future outbreaks as well as ensuring that the targets of ongoing healthcare initiatives by WHO (Non-communicable Diseases, Maternal and Child Health, etc.) are timely met.

Thank You.