
World Health Organization

WHA 73rd Session, 11 November 2020

Integrated, people-centred eye care, including preventable blindness and impaired vision

Thank you chairperson.

In the interest of time, I will be brief.

One of the proudest accomplishments of the Israeli medical system is the achievement of Universal Health Coverage to our population, and we support efforts by the WHO to ensure that healthcare is accessible to all. Many pressing matters fall under this title and we welcome this important discussion with the overall objective to build a healthier world.

In this statement I will focus on item 11.7 on the agenda, on Integrated, people-centred eye care, including preventable blindness and impaired vision.

Chair,

The comprehensive World Report on Vision (2019), and in particular the actionable recommendations it includes, set ambitious goals in the field of eye care. WHA73.4 resolution on integrated people-centered eye care, including preventable vision impairment and blindness, serves as an important milestone in the way to translate the recommendations into policies and public health interventions.

We look forward to engaging further with the secretariat in discussion on what are the feasible global targets for 2030 on integrated people-centered eye care. In this regard, we wish to stress one point.

Technology, scientific achievements and telemedicine are increasingly being used for early detection and of eye treatments. As certain eye conditions can be prevented or corrected if we detect them early enough, such developments may have a positive effect on people around the world, including in places with low doctor/population ratio, in hard-to-reach places and where diagnosis is not affordable .

For this reason, we encourage the WHO to emphasize technological innovation in its efforts to support the creation of a global research agenda for eye care.

I thank you for your attention.