

**SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
(RESUMED SESSION-VIRTUAL)
SVENTIETH SESSION
9 – 14 NOVEMBER 2020**

Agenda Item No. : 13.2

**Title : PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND
RESPONSE: WHO'S WORK IN HEALTH
EMERGENCIES**

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Intervention Note:

Over years under the continuous and close collaboration between the Member States and WHO, Malaysia has **benefitted** from progress in various areas of health. We had experience in containing past epidemics and outbreaks such as the Nipah virus encephalitis in 1999, SARS in 2003, the series of highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1) outbreak in-2004, the Pandemic A (H1N1) in 2009, as well as MERS-CoV in 2014. We saw remarkable progress in the strengthening of the national health system, which directly **contributed** to the **wider regional health security**.

Currently, the whole world is facing the challenge of COVID-19 Pandemic, another real-life emergency. We have learned many lessons in managing this pandemic, and there will be many more new challenges to face as the disease is still evolving. Among those are the importance of international coordination, public health responses, and mitigation of socio-economic impact. By adopting the Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan outlined by the WHO, we have established our National Strategic Plan in Preparedness and Response in responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We have also actively participated in a series of online meetings hosted by WHO at ministerial and working group levels.

In line with the WHO Incident Management System, Malaysia had fully adopted the Emergency Response Framework for COVID-19 pandemic. In Malaysia, the governance, policy, planning and coordination for COVID-19 pandemic was escalated to the highest level under multisectoral collaboration of related ministries lead by the

National Security Council directly under the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

We also acknowledge the WHO's effort in expanding the monitoring and evaluation of the International Health Regulations capacities. Successfully Malaysia is one of the countries that has completed the Joint External Evaluation in 2019.

With these words, Malaysia would like to take note of the report by the Director-General of the WHO's on Public Health Preparedness and Response: WHO's Works in Health Emergencies. We are also agreed to adopt the draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board at the 146th Session Meeting on Strengthening Preparedness for Health Emergencies: Implementation of The International Health Regulations (2005).