

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

Agenda Item No. : 120 & 121

**Title : The WHO strategy on research for health
(resolution WHA63.21 (2010))**

Ref. Document :

Intervention Note :

The World Health Organization (WHO) has supported the Institute for Public Health, Malaysia for several years in improving the mortality statistics in Malaysia. This includes not only technical advice, but also funding several research and capacity building initiatives. With aid and technical advice from the WHO, Malaysia had undertaken a study in 2014 to determine the suitability and feasibility of Verbal Autopsy methods to be utilized locally. This study resulted in policy changes, which has led to a nationwide implementation of Verbal Autopsy in Malaysia, since mid-2017 and with significant improvements in the quality of data in the local Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CVRS) systems.

WHO also extended assistance to Malaysia in implementing the Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS). The first GATS was in the year 2011 and the second one is planned for 2021. The WHO has rendered its technical expertise in the implementation of these surveys which has benefited Malaysia in monitoring tobacco use and its related policies in line with the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC).

Institute for Public Health has also been involved in various other research areas such as disability and sexual and reproductive health. Recently, Institute for Public Health was involved in the development of a global survey instrument to assess sexual health-related practices, behaviours and outcomes with the WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research, Geneva. Our institute was invited and will be participating in this multi-country validation study.

Malaysia wishes to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to WHO for the substantial contribution in resources in terms of expertise and financial contributions. WHO technical assistance has been most fruitful and helpful for Malaysia and we look forward to continued collaborations with WHO in the future.