

Intervention on **Agenda item: 13.2 WHO work in emergencies** from MONGOLIA

Mr./Madame Chair,

Mongolia would like to highlight the importance of Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases. The past decade of APSED implementation has led to many highlights in collaborative actions taken by the Government of Mongolia and the WHO during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. The impact of APSED was the development of a formal coordination mechanism for surveillance, risk assessment, risk communication and response to EID and PHE which serves now as the foundation of the government response to COVID-19.

The Health sector has taken systems approach to seasonal influenza and pandemic preparedness. Socio-economic, environmental, political, demographic factors have been translated into prevention, response and recovery activities. As the priority health hazard, pandemic preparedness planning has laid foundation for building capacities beyond the health sector and has been a driving force for building system resilience. Moreover, Mongolia has aligned pandemic preparedness and health security plan with broader disaster risk management for health plan. National costed plan has been used as the main coordination tool for preparedness planning for government, international partners and NGOs.

An important step for the government to strengthen the multisectoral IMS was through the organization of a full-scale simulation exercise. The main outcome of the simulation exercise conducted in May 2020 was the re-establishment of multisectoral IMS structures and procedures that bring multiple sectors and international partners under the leadership of the health sector co-chaired by the emergency management system.

Having said above, Mongolia looks forward to the continued technical support from the WHO in revising the existing legal environment on public health emergency preparedness and developing of M&E system for UHC and health security. We also look forward to the continued guidance and support by the Regional Office on strategies and tools to assist Member States in the implementation of HSS policies at the country level.

Thank you!