



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

73rd World Health Assembly
9-14 November 2020 *Virtual Platform*

Pillar	1	One billion more people benefitting from universal health coverage
Agenda	11	Review of and update on matters considered by the Executive Board
Sub-Agenda	11.8	<i>Neglected Tropical Diseases</i>
Document	A73/8	Draft road map for neglected tropical diseases 2021–2030 (Report by Director General)
Requested Action		To consider the draft Road Map For Neglected Tropical Diseases 2021–2030 and to provide further guidance on: (1) changes to current operating models and culture; (2) commitments by stakeholders; and (3) contributions of the roadmap in global public health

Thank you, Chair.

The Philippines, having considered the road map for neglected tropical diseases 2021–2030, thanks the WHO for the guidance provided in mapping out the radical changes needed within national health systems to operationalize and mainstream neglected tropical disease response.

The NTD Roadmap 2012-2020 provides governments with endemic conditions the strategic directions to ensure delivery of NTD commodities such as human rabies vaccines and medicines. Through this approach, many governments are achieving their NTD elimination targets. However, prevention, control and elimination of NTDs remain a global challenge, especially in the geographically displaced and disadvantaged areas that have no access to adequate sanitation, basic infrastructure and health services. In these locations, Lymphatic filariasis, Schistosomiasis, Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis, Food and Water-borne diseases, Rabies and Leprosy are some NTDs that remain as public health threats.

We therefore look forward to a continued engagement with the WHO in finalizing the draft NTD Road Map 2021-2030 in support of the attainment of the SDGs by 2030. To ensure its implementation, we believe that governments and civil societies should endeavor to:

1. Find innovative strategies in integrating NTD response to existing public health programs;
2. Build a resilient health system that will enable countries to withstand and eliminate NTDs;
3. Strengthen early detection and treatment of NTDs;
4. Educate the future health workforce on NTDs; and,
5. Ensure domestic funding for sustainability of NTD programs towards the endgame in the control and elimination of these diseases.

Thank you.