

Item 13.2

**Written Intervention of Viet Nam
On WHO's work in health emergencies
(A73/11 and EB146/2020/REC/1, resolution EB146.R10)**

Viet Nam is pleased to acknowledge and endorse the draft Resolution (EB146.R10) with the detailed recommendations to member states in continued strengthen capacities of health system in all emergency preparedness and response efforts in compliance with the IHR (2005).

Viet Nam highly appreciates the WHO's effective coordination and leadership role, so as your strong support under the WHO's health emergencies (WHE) programme in response to various infectious disease outbreaks and public health emergencies in the past years, notably on the ongoing global preparedness and response to COVID-19 pandemic. WHO has been supporting Viet Nam in building and continued strengthening national capacities for managing disease outbreaks and public health emergencies, as required by the IHR (2005).

In this regard, we are pleased to share that Viet Nam has passed 69 days without COVID-19 cases reported from community. As of 9 November 2020, Viet Nam has reported a total of 1,213 laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 from 44 out of 63 cities/provinces across the country, including 35 deaths; of those almost 90% have been recovered. This reconfirms Viet Nam's success in controlling COVID-19 outbreak under the strong leadership of the Government and effective multi-sectoral coordination and collaboration using a whole-of-society approach. Three key outbreak response measures that we have been persistently deploying include: early case detection (through surveillance and testing); case treatment; contact tracing and quarantine; along with strategic risk communications. The country is now accelerating active measures to achieve dual objectives of economic development and disease control; and moving toward a "safe coexistence with COVID-19".

Along with ongoing response to the evolving COVID-19 outbreak situation, Viet Nam has been dealing with the recent natural disasters of multiple typhoons and landslides which affected multiple central provinces, causing heavy damages and losses, in lives,



stocks and properties. Health sector has played a significant role in this response in which WHO has also rendered a timely and continued support to ensure effective prevention and control of possible post-disaster prone disease outbreaks in the affected areas.

Being an active Chair of the ASEAN for 2020, Viet Nam has been taking a strong leadership in organizing various regional events toward international solidarity on COVID-19 response. We are now planning for the establishment of, first, the ASEAN Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies for Public Health Emergencies and, second, the ASEAN Regional Center on Public Health Emergences and Emerging Diseases. This will be announced at the upcoming 37th ASEAN Summit which will be held in Hanoi. In this regard, we would like to request continued support from WHO on this important regional mechanism.

Viet Nam is committed to continue strengthening the national health system capacities and take full responsibilities as an active Member State, working hand-in-hand with ASEAN, WHO, international development partners and other member states in the fight against COVID-19; and in other commitments toward global health security.