World Health Organization
74th World Health Assembly
24 June to 1st July

Item 26

Statement by BRAZIL

(336 words)

Madam Chair,

Brazil will focus its intervention on item 26 on the topics of persons with disabilities; malaria; and World Health Days.

The promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities are a priority for Brazil and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol constitute key references for our work.

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, Brazil has implemented specific actions through a multi-sectorial contingency plan to reduce the burden of the health crisis on persons with disabilities. True to its engagement, Brazil was honored to be part of the core group of Member States that, under the coordination of Israel, tabled the draft resolution entitled "The highest attainable standard of health for persons with disabilities".

Nonetheless, we recall the interpretative declaration made by Brazil during the last Executive Board, which was part and parcel of us joining consensus.

The goal of Malaria elimination has been challenged by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on health services. Tackling the disease requires the promotion of multisectoral actions, aimed at promoting access to specific populations, as well as further regional integration for collective strategies.

We thank USA and Zambia for raising the importance of this challenge in this Assembly and further call for more research and action for tackling P. Vivax, the most widespread malaria parasite and predominant in the region of the Americas.

Brazil also welcomes the recognition of the World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day, which will contribute to reaching the goals from the 2030 Agenda and the NTD Roadmap. We thank UAE for its leadership on this topic.

Brazil furthers appreciates the discussion on World Health Days, which demands additional and timely consultations. We recall the importance that health observances shed light on issues that require enhanced awareness; and that debates are not based on one-dimensional approaches.

In this sense, Brazil also understands that a prerequisite that financing for observances be in principle based on voluntary

contributions may go against the spirit of collective ownership of the Assembly.