WRITTEN STATEMENT OF THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION
ON
AGENDA ITEM 34.1. PROGRESS REPORT
RESOLUTION WHA70.13 PREVENTION OF DEAFNESS AND HEARING LOSS
AT
THE 74TH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
24 MAY – 1 JUNE 2021

Indonesia would like to thank the Secretariat for preparing the Progress Report as stated in the Document A74/43, particularly on the prevention of deafness and hearing loss (Resolution WHA70.13 (2017)).

With regards to the global target of a 20% increase in effective coverage of ear and hearing care interventions by 2030, Indonesia supports the idea to monitor its progress through three tracer indicators relating to (1) newborn hearing screening services within the population; (2) prevalence of chronic ear disease and unaddressed hearing loss in schoolchildren; and (3) hearing technology use among adults with hearing loss. Concerning the data collection of the indicators, Indonesia would like to propose the Secretariat to take actions in developing tools using a digital platform or other practical and affordable survey methods.

Regarding to WHO's tools and software application for ear and hearing care, Indonesia appreciates the WHO's efforts in developing the related tools and software application. However, these tools should be further simplified for their use by all parts of the community.

Indonesia welcomes the establishment of the World Hearing Forum as a global network of stakeholders working in the field of hearing care. In this regard, we would like to request further information from WHO for all Member States regarding this matter.

Indonesia further welcomes the close collaboration between the Secretariat with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to develop and promote the WHO-ITU global standard for safe listening devices and systems. Indonesia appreciate the recommendation to include safe listening features in smartphones and MP3 players that can reduce preventable hearing loss among users. These safe listening features must still be affordable for users.

Finally, with regard to the theme of the World Hearing Day, Indonesia would like to propose the inclusion of prevention in addition to raising awareness of hearing loss and the promotion of hearing care.