Thank you chair

1. Kenya aligns her statement with that made by Burkina Faso on behalf of the African Member States.

2. We take note of the Director General’s report and support the adoption of the global patient safety action plan 2021–2030. We commend the Secretariat and Member States for the remarkable progress on the implementation of resolution WHA72.6 at global, regional, national, subnational and health care facility levels.

3. The Kenyan Government is committed to the realization of Patient Safety goals, and patient and health worker safety is a priority program in the achievement of universal health coverage. Of note is the establishment of a dedicated Patient and Healthcare Workers Division within the Ministry of Health which has active programs for Infection Prevention and Control, Antimicrobial Resistance and Patient Safety. We also have a National Patient Safety Advisory Committee and work on the development of the National Patient Safety Policy and Action Plan is ongoing.

4. Regarding the implementation of the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, Kenya notes that Antimicrobial Resistance poses a significant threat to the achievement of health related SDGs, and has prioritized actions to combat AMR through a One Health Approach.
5. To this end, the Government has set up a National Joint Inter-Agency Committee and Joint Secretariat with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, to coordinate the implementation of the National Policy and National Action Plan on the Prevention and Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance 2017-2022. Kenya is also a member of the Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System, commonly referred to as GLASS and we have an active AMR surveillance system in place countrywide.

6. We appreciate WHO’s support for patient safety and AMR activities through the Global Patient Safety Collaborative and the tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance Multi-Partner Trust Fund initiatives, respectively.

7. We however acknowledge challenges affecting the achievement of AMR targets, including the misuse of antibiotics, weak regulatory environment, poor infection prevention and control practices, weak laboratory capacity to detect and report antimicrobial resistant strains and inadequate knowledge and awareness among the public.

8. We therefore join calls for strengthened technical support from WHO for the implementation of the Global Action Plan at the regional and national levels, by addressing existing challenges outlined in the Director-General’s report through a more coordinated One Health approach, enhanced access to quality diagnostics and antimicrobials, sustained political commitment and government leadership, increased financing and targeted capacity building in AMR.

9. I thank you.