Thank you Chair

1. Kenya aligns her with the statement delivered by Ethiopia on behalf of the African Member States.

2. Whilst recognizing the linkage between Public health, innovation and intellectual property, Kenya reiterates her support for the proposal at the WTO calling for a temporary waiver of intellectual property rights COVID-19 tools. Many low- and middle-income countries, Kenya included, are now being confronted with an acute shortage of COVID-19 vaccines under the COVAX facility. This scenario is contrary to public health goals as it erodes public trust, breeds vaccine hesitancy, and prolongs the acute phase of the pandemic.

3. We therefore urge Member States to support all efforts to increase availability and equitable distribution of vaccines across the world. We also request the DG to prioritise implementation of the GSPOA
which will ensure that more Member States have the required capacities to innovate and develop solutions to emerging health challenges.

4. Regarding substandard and falsified medical products, Kenya is engaged in the discussions of the Member State Mechanism in her capacity as Vice-chair of the steering committee on behalf of the Afro Region. To implement the mechanism’s list of prioritized activities, Kenya has now adopted risk-based post market surveillance through a national technical working group on pharmacovigilance and post market surveillance as well as leveraging on technology to fight SF medical products using a the pharmacovigilance E-reporting platform. We are committed towards establishing a track and trace Platform as a strategy for prevention and detection of, and response to, substandard and falsified medical products.

5. Turning to the Standardization of medical devices nomenclature, Kenya recognizes the value in establishing a Nomenclature system for medical devices in support of efforts to strengthen the assessment, regulation and management of, and access to, medical devices through the entire health eco-system. We have therefore adopted both the Global Medical Devices Nomenclature and the Universal Medical Devices Nomenclature systems within our regulatory system.

6. We however note and share the concerns contained in the DG’s report regarding the limited accessibility to information experienced
by our stakeholders when using the existing systems. We therefore
welcome efforts by WHO to develop a nomenclature system that is
open and accessible to all. In line with the EB recommendation, we
urge the Secretariat to continue discussions with key stakeholders
on this process and keep Member States updated on further
developments.

7. In conclusion, Chair, Kenya supports the adoption of the resolution
proposed by Ethiopia on local production, of which we are proud to
have co-sponsored.

8. I thank you.