REPUBLIC OF KENYA

74th WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

National Statement

Agenda 22.1: Social determinants of health; and Agenda 23: WHO global plan of action to strengthen the role of the health system within a national multisectoral response to address interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls, and against children

Thank you chair

1. Kenya aligns her statement with that made by Nigeria on behalf of the Member States of the WHO African Region.

2. The world has seen considerable health gains over the last century. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the scale of health inequalities at all levels and demonstrated the multiple impacts of inequality on the broader health of individuals and communities. Kenya therefore supports the adoption of resolution EB148.R2 proposed by Peru and which we supported as co-sponsors.

3. Chair, in handling the COVID-19 pandemic, Kenya adopted a whole of government methodology, recognizing that the pandemic required a multisectoral approach that included sectors such as health, security, housing, trade, education and transport.

4. To this end, Kenya has developed the County Governments post-Covid-19 socioeconomic recovery strategy that will be implemented over a three-year period. This is in realisation of the need to invest more into building resilience to future pandemics by addressing the broader determinants of health.

5. In the next biennium, We also request WHO to review the funding for the social determinants of health and risk factor components of the GPW13 for the African region, which currently stands at less than 20% of the approved budget.

6. Regarding Agenda 23, we thank the Director General for his report on progress made in preventing violence against women and girls, violence against children, and all forms of interpersonal violence. Kenya has made important progress towards tackling violence against children, as evidenced by the laws, policies, guidelines, strategies and multi-sector programmes and initiatives implemented by Government.
7. Drawing on the latest data from the 2019 Violence against Children Survey, Kenya developed the National Prevention and Response Plan on Violence Against Children 2019–2023, which aims to accelerate evidence-based multisectoral actions to address violence against children, led and implemented by the Government with the support of development partners, civil society organizations and community members.

8. We reiterate the importance of respect for and alignment with national strategies and plans in implementing resolution WHA67.15 on “strengthening the role of the health system in addressing violence, in particular against women and girls, and against children”

9. I thank you.