Hob'ble Chair,

Bhutan welcomes WHO's report on oral health and commend the WHO for re-directing the world's attention to oral health in view of the recent activities to renew political commitment at the regional and global level.

Our efforts to improve oral health have been modest. We have developed the National Oral Health Strategic Plan in 2018, and are in the middle of implementing it. We have also taken initiatives to integrate oral health strategies with other non-communicable disease programs and are making steady progress.

While conveying our support for the adoption of the draft resolution under this agenda item, we would like to highlight that we are particularly pleased that the proposed resolution calls for the development of a global strategy by 2022, just in time when the term for our current national strategy is nearing its end. It will provide the opportunity to develop the next strategic plan aligned with the global strategy.

Thank you!