Slovakia – Committee B – Agenda Item 26.3 WHO Reform

Statement of the Slovak Republic
74th World Health Assembly
26.3. WHO Reform - Governance

Dear Mr Chair,

The pandemic has reinforced the call for WHO reshaping and has made it even more exposed. Slovakia is convinced that the ongoing debate as well as the action taken with respect to promoting a more strategic decision-making within the WHO will surely underpin its standing as the custodian of health.

Slovakia also appreciates the country – centric strategic planning process and the role differentiation of each WHO level focused on technical roles of regional and country offices with the coordination mission of the headquarters. We believe that the fair and systematic participation of the Member States should be a part of this process improvement because the meaningful involvement of the Member States in the governance matters is a collective ownership.

Stemming from the conclusions of the review on candidature process to the respective WHO bodies in the world regions, Slovakia is consistent with its belief that a more consensuated and predictable manner of the candidatures' coordination would be highly instrumental within our proper region. From this standpoint, we are ready to continue triggering discussion together with other Member States, whom we would like to thank for their valuable interaction. We also wish to express our gratitude to the direction of the WHO Regional Office for Europe for its attentive approach to this matter as well as for intensifying regional cooperation at various levels.

Thank you.