REPÚBLICA DE GUINEA ECUATORIAL
MINISTERIO DE SANIDAD Y BIENESTAR SOCIAL

EL VICE-MINISTRO

STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA ON AGENDA ITEM 14.8: STANDARDIZATION OF MEDICAL DEVICES NOMENCLATURE

1. Equatorial Guinea is honored to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Region.

2. The African Region Member States thank the secretariat for the report on Standardization of medical devices nomenclature and encourages the Secretariat to advance this work as it is a priority for our region.

3. The availability of medical devices, from simple surgical masks to complex imaging equipment still remains a challenge in many countries of the region. The slow implementation of robust regulatory systems for devices in member states has contributed to this challenge.

4. The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlightened the need for basic medical equipment for oxygen supply and monitoring, which were in short supply for years and now thanks to the awareness raised, oxygen plants are being deployed and many other priority medical devices are reaching our hospitals and clinics.

5. WHO's normative and standards work on names of medicines, and classification of diseases and health interventions should be urgently expanded to names of medical devices.

6. African countries request the Secretariat to find a system that is available to all our stakeholders in our countries: Ministries of Health , regulatory agencies, industry, donors, supply systems.

6. As for other health products, we need a system that has a transparent methodology of assignment, that is usable for health facility assessments, humanitarian responses, inventories, monitoring and evaluation, statistics, pricing, bidding, labelling, recalls, monitoring adverse events, and listing registered products, among other functions.

8. Chairperson, while we note the progress made in consultations by WHOat the regional and global levels since July 2021, we hereby call for the continuation of the mapping and use of the four nomenclature systems in WHO platforms and publications, with the purpose of drafting a plan on the development of a WHO global nomenclature of medical devices nomenclature.

Furthermore, we also call for a report to the Seventy-sixth World Health Assembly in 2023 on progress made towards the standardization of medical devices nomenclature.

I thank you.