

## **MALAYSIA**

### **75<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY GENEVA, SWITZERLAND 22 – 28 MAY 2022**

- Agenda Item No. : Agenda item 28.1**
- Title : Progress reports (B&C)**  
**Primary health care (resolution WHA72.2)**  
**(2019).**  
**Strengthening Integrated, People-centered**  
**Health Services (Resolution WHA69.24)**  
**(2016)**
- Ref. Document : A75/44 (12 April 2022)**

#### **Intervention Note:**

Thank you Mr. Chair,

1. Malaysia takes note and commends WHO for the extensive activities undertaken under resolution WHA72.2 in 2019 on primary health care towards universal health coverage.
2. Malaysia recognises the importance of primary health care, and it has been the core of the Malaysian Health Care System since its formation. As a result, Malaysia has tremendously improved in many health indicators, since independence. In addition, vaccine-preventable diseases have also dropped in recent years in response to active vaccination programs with high immunisation coverage rates.

3. Although Malaysia's health system has remained remarkably stable over the past five decades, the broader context has changed dramatically. Malaysia National Health Morbidity Survey in 2019 revealed that the prevalence of NCDs is rising. Approximately 50% of those with raised blood sugar, blood pressure, and cholesterol are unaware and thus, are not optimally treated.
4. Recognising the importance of tackling the growing burden of NCDs and the role of primary healthcare in disease prevention and health promotion in curbing NCDs, Malaysia is planning to launch the National Screening Initiative as a nationwide screening programme to strengthen the health system through investment in PHC for the early detection and treatment of NCDs.
5. In addition to providing screening at all public primary healthcare clinics for free, this initiative will involve multi-stakeholder collaboration, including community participation, private sector partnership, employer involvement and other ministries. It will be part of our effort to address the demand side incentive and improve the accessibility and affordability of health screening services for timely intervention.
6. Malaysia has made several new commitments to sustain universal health coverage, and one of them is via the Enhanced Primary Health Care (EnPHC) initiative which is implemented in stages. EnPHC aims to tackle NCDs, through a person-centred approach and empowering individuals for better health and well-being knowledge. EnPHC is an effort to reorientate the model of care towards focusing on prevention, promotion and early detection

through empowering and engaging people and communities, striving for quality improvement of patient care.

7. A programme targeting the lower income 40% of the population, was also implemented to coordinate services within and across sectors. Capitalising on the abundance of private-sector clinics for population-based screening through outsourcing of screening services, we aim to decongest the public clinics to allow for more chronic disease management. The outsourcing of services also improves efficiency across sectors by minimising overlapping of investigations via a centralised web-based IT system.
  
8. These concerted efforts are hoped to accelerate further WHO's vision of Integrated People-Centred Health Services in which all people will have access to health services that respond to their life course needs and preferences - coordinated across the continuum of care.

Thank you.