

# DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

## SEVENTY-FIFTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

(21-30 May 2023)

### **Item 16.1: Well-being and health promotion**

Chairperson,

Enjoying the healthy and happy life without any diseases is the unanimous desire of all the people. As the Constitution of the World Health Organization outlined, the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition. The health of all people is fundamental to the attainment of prosperity, peace and security of the country, as well as the happiness of the families.

In 2018 in order to ensure the healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all stages in achieving the sustainable development goals by 2030, the World Health Organization developed the General Programme of Work (GPW)13 consisting of three interconnected strategic priorities (achieving universal health coverage, addressing health emergencies and promoting healthier populations), and has now been implementing the cooperative activities on the basis of it, which is much appreciated by our Delegation.

Meanwhile, it is our view that WHO should pay due attention to the well-being and promotion of the people, not merely to struggling with the diseases.

The DPRK is now ensuring all the conditions where the people can work and contribute to the society with healthy life. Our health policy is preventive medicine.

In our country, all people have the same right to be medically treated thanks to the Constitution and the Law on Public Health of the DPRK.

The preventive medicine is the DPRK Government's main public health policy, which has been being fully implemented by household doctor system established in the peripheral levels. Household doctors are playing the pivot role for the residents to lead healthy lives by detecting, registering and treating the diseases at early stage among their residents while giving vaccinations, as well as conducting IEC activities.

The devotion of health workers to the health care services for people is defined as the property and the lifeline of socialist public health.

The public health affair for protecting and improving the life and health of people is one of the top priority issues in national policies. Typical examples are the polices on developing public health by enhancing the social interest, the State assistance and community participation in public health, gradually

increasing commitment to financing for the health sector, in particular, providing the health facilities with main and subsidiary food, water and electricity as top priority, prohibiting development projects, though important, when they pose risks to life and health of people.

According to the policies on making sports mass-based and a part of daily life, not only mass healthy campaigns including mass gym exercise and healthy Taekwondo, but also daily twice exercises during recesses in the mornings and afternoons are actively encouraged, while sectional diversified sports events are organized annually.

In DPRK, gender equity is thoroughly guaranteed in all walks of social life and the social insurance system for the elderly, people who are incapable of working and physically disabled ones has been established. In addition, protection of vulnerable groups including children, women, especially childbearing ones and the elderly who needs social protection, is legally ensured and considerable attention is paid to attract public interest to these groups.

Ministry of Public Health, under the coordinated leadership of the State, closely collaborates with relevant ministries and tries to fulfill its obligation to create better environment for the health and well-being of the people, based on in-depth analysis of interrelationship between the environmental development and health.

The DPRK will do its best for the well-being and health promotion of the people.

Thank you.