Thank you Chair,

India takes note of the report and endorses reorienting health systems towards primary health care as a resilient foundation for Universal Health Coverage.

India is committed to ensure universal health coverage to all its citizens. India launched its flagship program Ayushman Bharat i.e. Long Live India in the year 2018 embracing the key principles of universality, equity, people centricity, and inclusive partnerships.

It has four components, most important of which includes the establishment of Ayushman Bharat- Health and Wellness Centres.
AB-HWCs reinforce India’s commitment to achieve promotive, preventive, curative, palliative and rehabilitative aspects of healthcare through transforming 1, 50,000 existing primary health care facilities into Health and Wellness Centers.

Health and Wellness Centers are a notable change in primary healthcare as service delivery has transitioned from "selective care" to "inclusive primary healthcare", with 12 distinct packages of services, as well as the introduction of a cadre of Community Health Officers (CHO) to strengthen primary healthcare service delivery. Further it has been equipped with digital tools to increase its outreach such as teleconsultation services.

Chair,

With the global increase in burden of NCDs, India is cognizant of the magnitude of challenges and is taking expedient measures to address it. We have taken several steps to address this issue at primary health care level. India would like to suggest that holistic approach will be more effective for non-communicable diseases such as:

- Conducting health screenings in primary healthcare settings to identify diseases in their early stages
- Strengthening infrastructure, human resources, diagnosis and management of NCDs
- Change in lifestyle and food habits
- Digitization of health record to monitor health related issue will be beneficial in NCDs
- Integrating mental health services into primary healthcare delivery to better address these issues,
Chair,

India assures that it is committed to the cause of prevention and control of NCDs and fully appreciates and acknowledges the global efforts in this area. India is proceeding towards the illness to wellness concept with the “Whole of Government and Whole of Society” approach. Given the serious challenge of NCDs, global efforts are required to address the challenge need to be driven by strong and strategic leadership, cost effective interventions and multi-sectoral approach.

Thank you