Intervention by India

Committee B
Agenda 20.1: Report of the External Auditor
Agenda 20.2: Report of the Internal Auditor

Thank you, Chair!

India acknowledges WHO’s efforts to replace the legacy IT application with the new Business Management System (BMS). However, as revealed in the report pending development of the to-be process documentation, essential for tracking and monitoring the implementation status of different modules, India urges WHO to expedite the roll-out and implementation of the system.

Further, the audit assessment identified issues pertaining to objectivity in the vendor selection process, risking the best value for money. India suggests that WHO should bolster its evaluation protocols and consultancy contracting procedures aligning with the current procurement guidelines.

On the issue of sub-optimal inventory management resulting in the wastage of medical and humanitarian supplies worth US$ 3.8 million in 2022 due to expiration, we strongly
recommend the WHO to streamline the inventory management mechanisms and establish checks for maintaining inventory of supplies with adequate shelf life.

Chair,

The WHO must embrace the recommendations of the External Auditor to enhance its financial, administrative, and management processes in overall functioning demonstrating a commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible stewardship.

India recommends WHO to prioritize the regular participation of Member States in the process of audit (both pre- and post-audit) for the creation of an authentic audit report.

Based on the internal report, India concurs that the WHO should focus on the following areas—

- Evaluate and renew the sustainability of WHO-led projects,
- Evaluate and renew cooperation strategies,
- strengthen resource mobilization and prioritize resource allocation,
- streamlining the supply chain, vendor management, and procurement processes ensuring comprehensive system design capable of confirming the status of delivery of goods and demonstrate the best value for money and an effective use of resources.

We strongly condemn the increase in reports of sexual harassment received in 2022, as compared to 2021 from 13 to 46, we recommend WHO to investigate these instances of sexual harassment providing justification regarding the increase in the cases of sexual harassment.
Chair,

The WHO must **continue working towards incorporating the recommendations** of Auditors to address the existing systemic shortcomings and India is willing to extend the required support for the same.

*Thank you Chair!*