

Seventy-Sixth of the World Health Assembly

WHO HQ, Geneva, 21-30 May 2023



Intervention by India

Agenda 22.3: WHO Traditional medicine strategy 2014-2023

(Word Count: 316)

Thank you, Chair!

India appreciates the decision of EB152(18) which recommended to the Health Assembly the extension of the current strategy until 2025 and the development of a draft new global traditional medicine strategy for the period 2025–2034.

Over the last decade, “WHO traditional medicine strategy: 2014-2023” has supported the development and implementation of traditional medicine by all Member States. In the wake of WHO’s dedication towards mainstreaming Traditional Medicine for Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Primary Health Coverage (PHC) and Health for All with key initiatives such as the establishment of the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) at Jamnagar, India and many such forward looking initiatives. India has committed an investment of USD 250 million to support the smooth functioning of the centre and realizing the objectives of WHO GPW 13 (Thirteenth General Programme of Work 2019-2023), the ten-year milestone for Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, traditional medicine socio-cultural and socio-cultural biodiversity heritage.

The current WHO TM strategy covers a wide array of domains including the use of traditional, complementary and integrative medicine (TCIM) to health, wellness, and people-centred health care, Promoting safe and effective use of T&CM, Integration of T&CM in national health systems, networking and development of T&CM Knowledge Platforms etc. It is very important to continue working on the roadmap laid in the current strategy document in the gap year 2023-24 and to develop a revised, updated strategy for the next decade 2024-2033 which includes preparedness for new healthcare challenges and also to address the paradigm shift of healthcare seeking towards preventive care and wellness in post COVID era.

India is committed to creating a holistic healthcare model wherein pluralistic healthcare choices will empower the citizens to the best available healthcare help for achieving WHO GPW 13

Chair,

India is committed to the drafting of WHO traditional medicine strategy: 2025–2034 in consultation with Member States and relevant stakeholders.

Thank you!