Intervention by India

Agenda 27.1- Progress Report
(O): Global Strategy on Digital Health
(P): Eleventh revision of the International Classification of Diseases (resolution WHA 72.15 (2019))

(Word Count: 352)

Thank you, Chair

India acknowledges and appreciates the WHO’s efforts to accelerate the development and adoption of citizen-centric digital health solutions across the world through the Global Strategy on Digital Health. It puts an impetus on making healthcare more affordable, accessible, and equitable for all duly utilizing scalable technological tools and digital solutions.

The key objectives of the strategy include promotion of global collaboration and knowledge transfers and advancing the implementation of national digital health strategies. Aligned with these objectives India is espousing the cause of Digital Health under its ongoing G-20 Presidency. Through formation of Global Initiative on Digital Health housed at World Health Organization Headquarters, we aim to create an institutional framework for supporting implementation of technology across the nations and establish convergence mechanisms for all digital initiatives across the world.
The initiative, **aligned with the Global Strategy on Digital Health**, aims to facilitate coordination among interested parties to **advance WHO’s priorities on the agenda** and ensure **compliance with WHO’s norms and standards**.

**Chair,**

While the digital health agenda is being ardently promoted and adopted in the global arena today, there exists an **immense disparity in access to technological interventions** which can deepen and **intensify the existing inequity in health system capacities**. In order to prevent the same, India is promoting **universalization and democratization of digital health solutions through Digital Public Goods** under the Global Initiative of Digital Health. Instead of reinventing the wheel, this initiative, with a **network-of-network approach**, will be crucial in **bridging the global digital divide** and enable **equitable access to technological interventions** by nations across the world, especially **low-and-middle-income countries**.

To bring this cause to fruition, under India’s G-20 Presidency, a **fund of US$200 million** has been proposed and we look forward to the support of the present participants for the same.

**Chair,**

Digital health is revolutionizing healthcare worldwide, but without **global collaboration**, progress will be limited. Thus, I call upon all **nations to unite, share resources, and work together** towards this common goal because only then can we truly **harness the power of technology and create a healthier, more equitable world for all**.

**Thank you!**