

Advancing Health Equity and Health Systems Resilience in a Turbulent World: A Global Health Agenda for 2025–2028

Draft Fourteenth General Programme of Work (GPW14)

Esteemed Chair, Members of the WHA, Ladies and Gentlemen

Lebanon aligns with the regional statement read by Egypt and wishes to commend the efforts of the Director-General and member states for the comprehensive GPW14 draft report that sets the scene for the global health agenda for 2025-2028, taking into consideration the evolving global health challenges with a specific focus on achieving measurable impact, strengthening data management, and enhancing organizational performance. We were happy to see that the GPW14 builds on the achievements of its predecessor (GPW13) and charts an ambitious course of action toward achieving health for all emphasizing inclusivity, innovation, and partnerships.

Lebanon has deployed significant efforts to implement GPW13's strategic priorities, including initiatives to address noncommunicable diseases, improve access to essential health services, enhance emergency preparedness, and strengthen health governance and financing schemes. In addition, Lebanon's strategic direction towards leveraging digital health technologies and investment in innovation aligns with the program's emphasis on promoting innovative approaches to improve health outcomes. Lebanon has reported on many health indicators despite the scarcity of resources, recurrent crises, and economic hardships. However, the system still lacks standardized coding and reporting at national level.

Lebanon reaffirms its commitment to adopting the framework of GPW14 that aligns with its strategic direction to improve the health and well-being of the population and enhance the healthcare system's resilience and response. However, we recommend not to overburden countries with new indicators while experiencing difficulties in reporting the existing ones. Furthermore, Nation-states suffer from the scarcity of human and financial resources and sometimes rudimentary technology to help retrieve data and report on indicators. Additionally, some suggested indicators are difficult to measure and require deployment of technical, financial, and human resources.

Though that GPW14 marks a notable milestone in global health governance, its implementation requires dedicated efforts, accountability, and collaboration to secure its success.

Finally, we are looking forward for the implementation of the GPW14 and ask for WHO's support to mend the data gaps and strengthen the capacity of our country to report on as many indicators as possible considering the difficulties we are facing.