

Portugal
World Health Organization
77th World Health Assembly

(27th May – 1st June 2024)

Item 17 – Draft Fourteenth general programme of work 2025-2028

Madame Chair,

Excellences,

Portugal aligns itself with the statement previously made on behalf of the EU.

Today's fast-paced global challenges in society including health, economics, politics, and the environment require exceptional resilience and collaboration from all nations and sectors.

Building on previous work and lessons learned, the GPW 14 constitutes a renewed opportunity to realign and reinvigorate actions to put the SDGs back on track, and future-proofing health systems for the challenges ahead. We welcome WHO's work and the inclusive process of elaboration of the GPW14, fostering a participatory involvement of stakeholders. This spirit is key to addressing the interconnected cross-sectoral hurdles that threaten the achievement of our common goals by 2030.

We praise the strategic objectives outlined by the program, including:

- i. to respond to climate change-related challenges and their health impacts, recognizing it as an escalating problem that needs to be addressed, both by decreasing communities' carbon footprint and by building climate-prepared and climate-resilient health systems;
- ii. to address the social determinants of health with equity-based policies and health promotion-focused interventions;
- iii. to advance universal health coverage, investing in equitable, accessible, and quality healthcare services, and strengthening healthcare workforce capacitation, driven by digital transformation and information management efforts;
- iv. to invest in surveillance, prevention, preparedness activities to build all-hazards-resilient health systems;

Madame chair,

Great challenges require innovative approaches. We recommend that WHO continues to support and invest in recent initiatives endorsed by Member States that align with GPW14 priorities. It is the case of the UHPR. We believe the theory of change guiding both the UHPR and this GPW will help countries systematically identify and address the root causes of health needs and disparities, leading to more effective and sustainable public health improvements.

Portugal urges WHO and other Member States to prioritize health and migration in the GPW14, as growing displacement and migration significantly impact individuals, public health, and healthcare systems. Additionally, mental health must not be overlooked.

Lastly, Portugal expresses its commitment to facilitating the implementation of the GPW 14, using it as a guideline for its strategic planning, prioritization, monitoring, and evaluation activities, and working towards achieving the strategic objectives and joint outcomes outlined.

Thank you.

(365/330)