

## PORTUGAL

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

77<sup>TH</sup> WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

(27<sup>TH</sup> MAY - 01<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2024)

*Item 3 – Debate geral*

Projeto Intervenção da Senhora Secretária de Estado da Saúde

Mr President of the World Health Assembly,

Mr Director-General,

Distinguished colleagues,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am honoured to address this Assembly on behalf of Portugal. We align with the previous statement by the European Union.

We gather under the theme "All for Health, Health for All," highlighting our commitment to universal well-being. We note with concern the rise in global health emergencies, including man-made health emergencies and humanitarian needs. We call for an end to all conflicts, including an immediate stop to those in Gaza and Ukraine. We urge all parties to comply with international law and international humanitarian law. The impact of climate change on health has also been worsening, as seen in the recent floods in Brazil and other parts of the world and must be prioritized.

Portugal fully supports the WHO's 14th General Programme of Work (GPW14), a crucial step for global health. GPW14's strategic vision to promote and protect health worldwide aligns with our national priorities and reflects a progressive approach essential for today's and tomorrow's global health challenges. We applaud the efforts to promote a sustainably financed organisation through the launch of the first Investment Round.

Portugal reaffirms its commitment to pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response and aligns with innovative approaches proposed by the DG, such as the UHPR, of which we are a pilot country. The WHO Academy will also play an important role in promoting global technical capacity. Ensuring that all countries are better prepared for and capable of responding to future pandemics effectively and equitably is a moral imperative. Portugal stands ready to contribute constructively to these efforts, prioritising global solidarity and cooperation.

We must future-proof our health systems for the generations to come. The decisions and actions we take in the present will define the health and well-being of billions of people worldwide. Let us move forward with the conviction that we can achieve "Health for All".

Thank you