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WHA 78 session

Statement

Committee A

Agenda Item 13.8 Climate change and health

Thank you Madame Chair,

Armenia thanks the secretariat for the report presented under this agenda item.

The climate change and health are two interrelated concerns that have been affecting our daily life. In Armenia we feel their consequences of every day.

The impact of climate change on public health in Armenia has far reaching consequences. Frequent and severe heatwaves put a big burden on healthcare system of the country. In urban areas the rising temperatures exacerbate air pollution and elevate ground-level ozone. These changes worsen respiratory conditions particularly for vulnerable populations. As a result of erratic weather patterns and shifting precipitation we have reduced crop yields which undermines food security and nutritional health. In addition, increasing dry seasons and droughts, contribute to a rise in waterborne diseases and sanitation challenges. These interconnected threats necessitate joint efforts aimed at integration of air quality monitoring, early warning systems, and climate-resilient water and food infrastructure into national health strategies.

Armenia highly values the pivotal role of the World Health Organization to advance global action on climate change-related health challenges. Joint efforts to build climate-resilient and low-carbon health systems is both timely and critical. We particularly welcome the call to integrate climate considerations into health policies and national planning. In our country, we put concrete efforts to strengthen early warning systems, enhance disease surveillance, and ensure health equity as we face growing challenges from heatwaves, water scarcity, and air pollution.

We also see an immense value in health co-benefits of climate action. Cleaner air from reduced emissions, healthier diets from sustainable food systems. These are not just environmental wins; they are lifelines for our people. Armenia supports the inclusion of health-related targets and objectives in Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans. But we believe that meaningful progress in resource-constrained settings requires more than ambition. It requires capacity building, financial support, and technical assistance.

In this context, we call on the WHO to continue leading the way facilitating knowledge sharing, coordinating efforts, and unlocking access to financing and technical assistance for addressing climate-change related health challenges. Armenia stands ready to collaborate with Member States and partners to advance this agenda through inclusive, science-based, and equitable action.

Thank you