



78th Session of the World Health Assembly
Bangladesh statement

Third Meeting of Committee A
Agenda item: 11.2 Proposed Programme-budget 2026-27
Date: 20 May

Thank you, Madam Chair.

We appreciate the Secretariat for the reports.

We, the Member States went for massive overhauling works in WHO in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to transformative changes such as affirmation of the Assessed Contribution (AC) and the outcome of Investment Round begin to come into fruition, WHO is poised with a massive blow because of fund shortage.

Our togetherness in the matters of health can reverse the current direction in the program budget. Despite resource constraints. Bangladesh affirms 20% AC increase to contribute to WHO in continuing its core function.

Mapping and matching are naturally, suited in the context of practicability but it disproportionately affects the Member States that would widen health inequity across societies. In the recent time, partial closure of program in health emergencies, TB, Malaria and HIV infection manifests the direction WHO is heading to.

It is possible to optimize operational cost of WHO and continue some operations through relocating some of them from the headquarters to regional and country offices. We presume through such measures, we can save some more operations. Hence, we urge upon the Member States not to be hesitant on such relocation if it serves some more people in vulnerable situation.

It would be unfortunate if some operations are punctuated because of our preference to continue them from Geneva.

We urge for more flexible voluntary contribution fund to save core budget programme of WHO. And thus, redouble our efforts to realize health equity.

Bangladesh supports adoption of the resolution on the program budget 2026-27.

I thank you, Madam, Chair.
