

**Statement of I.R. Iran on:
" Draft global traditional medicine strategy 2025–2034"**

Chair, Director-General, Distinguished Delegates,

The Islamic Republic of Iran commends the Secretariat for the comprehensive draft WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025–2034, which provides a visionary yet realistic roadmap to harness the potential of traditional medicine to achieve the highest attainable standard of health and well-being.

As one of the oldest civilizations with a rich heritage in traditional medicine, Iran fully supports this strategy. Our Persian Medicine, with roots extending over 7,000 years, offers a wealth of knowledge in holistic health practices. This legacy is grounded in individual-centered care, emphasizing prevention, and the integration of lifestyle modifications for disease management.

In line with the strategy's focus on evidence-based approaches, Iran has made significant strides in integrating Persian Medicine into our modern healthcare system. We have:

Established dedicated faculties and departments of Persian medicine in universities of medical science and pharmacy since 2006, resulting in a large output of robust research as well as education of the next generation of healthcare providers in Persian Medicine. With this approach, today Iran is one of the leading countries in traditional medicine research and moving towards traditional medicine with an evidence-based and informed medicine perspective.

Promoted accessibility through specialized clinics and ensured equity in healthcare delivery by incorporating traditional approaches into primary and specialized health services. Integrating Persian medicine at level 1 of the health service system in health houses in rural areas in order to maximize people's access to health services and UHC has been one of the important achievements of the Iranian health care system in applying Persian medicine.

Persian Medicine's holistic and preventive ethos aligns with WHO's vision for health systems that are people-centered and resilient. Persian medicine treatments and its teachings on life-style modifications are rooted in the culture and belief of the people and hence well accepted by society.

We endorse the strategy's emphasis on strengthening research, appropriate regulation, integration into health systems and harnessing the cross-sector benefits for well-being societies. We urge WHO to continue supporting Member States in these efforts, including fostering knowledge exchange and developing global frameworks for safety, efficacy, and quality.

The Islamic Republic of Iran reaffirms its commitment to advancing the implementation of the Traditional Medicine Strategy. We stand ready to share our expertise, to contribute to regional collaboration and to collaborate with WHO and Member States to achieve a future where traditional medicine is recognized as a vital component of healthcare.

Thank you, Chair.