

Statement of I.R.Iran on

“Accelerating action on global drowning prevention”

Mr./Madam Chairperson, Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the esteemed authors of the document “Accelerating Action on Global Drowning Prevention.” I also thank the World Health Organization for the 2024 report, which provides valuable information and serves as a step-by-step guide for countries to develop effective planning aimed at reducing drowning risks.

Drowning remains a neglected public health concern, despite being one of the most preventable causes of death—particularly affecting children and young people. Therefore, it is essential that national health systems develop structured programs to address it. Effective interventions must also consider the social determinants of health, which play a crucial role in drowning incidents. Additionally, promoting self-care and preventive approaches should be prioritized in national agendas.

In alignment with WHO’s programs and considering Iran’s diverse climatic conditions, the Islamic Republic of Iran has incorporated several measures within its health system. These include evidence-based research, establishing a national drowning registry system, analyzing the causes of drowning incidents, implementing legal requirements to support prevention efforts, conducting awareness campaigns, and developing a national drowning prevention report.

Accordingly, the Islamic Republic of Iran, while supporting the global initiatives, offers the following recommendations:

1. Designing context-specific national programs based on analysis of drowning causes;
2. Integrating social determinants of health (SDH) into national health strategies;
3. Developing and implementing collaborative programs involving all relevant stakeholders;
4. Empowering communities and strengthening self-care and community-based initiatives.
- 5- According to direct and indirect disastrous psychosocioeconomic burden of the issue, drowning should be included on the agenda of the High-Level Meeting of UN General assembly on NCD in New York in September 2025

Thank you, Madam/Mr. Chairperson,