



Statement of Ireland

78th World Health Assembly

Item 11.2

Proposed Programme Budget 2026-2027

20th May 2025

Chair,
Director General,
Excellencies,
Colleagues,

Ireland aligns with the statement delivered by Poland on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.

We thank the Secretariat for the revised Programme Budget 2026–2027 and acknowledge the challenging budgetary context in which it was developed.

We commend the transparent prioritization process and the key priorities that emerged from it, which represent WHO's core functions and its unique comparative advantage. The alignment with the GPW14 and the emphasis on preserving essential functions are crucial. Delivery relies on a sustained

commitment to the implementation of the reform throughout and beyond the 2026-2027 period. These efforts have been a clear demonstration of the WHO's commitment and dedication to leaving no one behind.

In addition, it has led to positive outcomes, such as our increased awareness of the comparative value of the WHO across the country, regional and global levels of the organization, from its normative and standard-setting role to emergency response.

We acknowledge that financial sustainability is crucial to an effective organization and as such, Ireland strongly fully supports the implementation of the ongoing reforms and calls for predictable and flexible funding for the WHO. Such measures are essential to allow the WHO to operate in a transparent and efficient manner to maximize its benefits for global health.

We call upon all Member States to continue to support the efforts of the Organization to move towards sustainable, predictable financing including through (1) supporting the proposed increase of assessed contributions at the Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly, (2) additional voluntary contributions as part of the WHO Investment Round and (3) demonstrating flexibility in the use of available specified funding including as appropriate through immediate reprogramming where this is practicable.

Thank you.