



**Statement of Ireland**  
**78<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly**

**Item 13.9**

**Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health**

**26<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

Chair,  
Colleagues,

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

More than 700 women die – needlessly – during pregnancy and childbirth, every day.

These deaths are preventable. Sustained, effective action is not a choice, it is a must.

Domestically, Ireland has a strong set of policies ensuring access to the full spectrum of care required for women and adolescents. SRHR services are integrated into the national health system and complemented by measures such

as free contraception, home screening of STIs [sexually transmitted infections], and expanded fertility care.

Internationally, we are committed to working with the WHO, governments and civil society to improve maternal health outcomes through health system strengthening, better nutrition, family planning, and tackling harmful practices known to have a negative impact on health.

Ireland places great value on the WHO's normative and standard setting role, including and in particular, WHO guidance on women's, children's, and adolescents' health.

Thank you.