



**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
**78<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly**  
19-27 May 2025 / Geneva, Switzerland

**28.1 Progress reports: Pillar 3**

For Pillar 3, the Philippines will speak specifically in relation to **WHA resolution 76.18**. We commend the progress made by the WHO in advancing global action on drowning prevention. We further commend the WHO for the release of the *Global Status Report on Drowning Prevention* and for establishing the *Global Alliance for Drowning Prevention*.

Drowning remains a **neglected public health threat**, claiming over 300,000 lives annually. In the Philippines, we lose an average of 10 lives every day due to accidental drowning. It is the second leading cause of death among children aged 5 to 14, and the sixth for children under 5.

In response, the Philippines has begun integrating drowning prevention into our health policies, helping secure budget allocations, strengthen accountability, and promote intersectoral collaboration. We are enhancing data collection through an electronic information system and expanding training in survival swimming and CPR in schools and communities.

Our ***Drowning Prevention Health Promotion Playbook*** empowers local governments with tools for community education, risk mapping, and flood preparedness, particularly targeting high-risk groups such as children and fisherfolk.

The Philippines **reaffirms its commitment** to evidence-based, locally driven action and **calls on the WHO to continue providing technical assistance** for capacity building, especially in vulnerable areas.