



SOUTH AFRICA NATIONAL STATEMENT
78th SESSION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
COMMITTEE A

Item 11.1 Governance Reform:
Process of handling and investigating potential
allegations against WHO Directors-General

Thank you, Chair.

1. South Africa aligns with the statement delivered by the distinguished delegates of Botswana on behalf of the 47 Member States of the African Region.
2. South Africa reaffirms its support for the finalisation of procedures on a process of handling and investigating potential allegations against WHO Directors-General, in line with the recommendations of the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU).
3. South Africa thanks the Chairpersons of the Executive Board (EB) and the Programme Budget and Administration Committee (PBAC) for their tireless work in consulting Member States in order to find a solution to the work that was outstanding during the last session of the EB. We also welcome the outcome of their report.

4. We applaud the commitment of WHO's leadership and management in addressing sexual misconduct, as well as culture change at WHO through reform of policies and systems that are fostering the desired behaviour among all members.
5. South Africa welcomes the proposed process of handling and investigating potential allegations which is rooted in ensuring transparency, independence and integrity of the investigation process that protect confidentiality for all parties concerned. Above all, it should ensure that governing bodies remain central to decision-making and oversight.
6. South Africa supports the adoption of the process for handling and investigating allegations against WHO Directors-General as proposed in the report, as amended by the recommendation by the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee.
7. I Thank you