



Republic of the Gambia
Ministry of Health
The Quadrangle
Banjul

SEVENTY-NINTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER, GENEVA 18-23 MAY 2026

Sub-Item 13.2	Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)
Documents	Documents A79/7, A79/INF./2 and A79/INF./3
Requested action	Note the report
Time limit	2 minutes
Commission	A

Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

The Gambia aligns itself with the statement delivered by Tanzania on behalf of the WHO African Region.

The Gambia wishes to thank the Secretariat for the report on the “Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)”. We have noted the progress highlighted and express our appreciation to the WHO for its continued technical and financial support in strengthening IHR implementation.

We reaffirm our commitment to the full implementation of the IHR (2005).. The Gambia continues to submit the electronic State Party Annual Report (eSPAR) regularly and on time. We use findings from the IHR Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (including the SPAR, Joint External Evaluation, Simulation Exercise and Intra- and After-Action Reviews) to identify and address priority areas for improvement of IHR core capacities.

In line with the new amendments, The Gambia has established a National IHR Authority and Focal Point comprising senior representatives from all relevant stakeholders including human, animal, and the environment sectors. The National IHR Authority and Focal Point secretariat is coordinated by the Ministry of Health.

Furthermore, the amended IHR (2005) has been incorporated into our Public Health Bill, soon to be passed by the National Assembly.

We urge the Assembly to note the report and encourage the WHO to continue supporting Member States in strengthening the implementation of IHR core capacities , including the domestication of the existing and new amendments.

Thank you.