



**Republic of the Gambia
Ministry of Health
The Quadrangle
Banjul**

SEVENTY-NINTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF HEALTH, GAMBIA

Geneva, 2026

Agenda Item 18.2	Programme Budget 2026–2027
Document	A79/16)
Time limit	2mn
Requested action	Take note of the report
Commission	B

Honourable Chair,
Director-General,
Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

The Republic of The Gambia thanks the Secretariat for the proposed financing, implementation, and performance framework for the Programme Budget 2026–2027.

We welcome the continued shift towards a more results-oriented, country-focused approach that prioritizes impact, accountability, and alignment with national health priorities. The effectiveness of this framework will depend on its ability to deliver predictable, flexible, and equitable financing that responds to country needs.

We note the progress made in strengthening the results framework and performance monitoring systems. However, financing gaps and fragmentation remain significant concerns. Addressing these challenges is essential to ensure that the Programme Budget translates into tangible outcomes at the country level.

In this regard, The Gambia underscores three priorities: 1) Ensuring stronger alignment of the Programme Budget with country priorities and national health strategies, including support for Universal Health Coverage and health systems strengthening. 2) Improving the predictability and flexibility of financing, including increased core voluntary contributions to reduce earmarking and fragmentation. 3) Strengthening performance frameworks with clear, measurable indicators and enhanced country-level accountability mechanisms.

We call on Member States and partners to support a well-financed Programme Budget that enables the Secretariat to deliver on its mandate effectively.

The Gambia remains committed to working with the Secretariat and partners to ensure that the Programme Budget 2026–2027 delivers meaningful results for our populations.

I thank you.