

79th Session of World Health Assembly 2026

18th – 23rd May 2026, Geneva



**Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India**

Intervention by India (2 minutes)

ITEM 12.5: Primary Healthcare

***ITEM 12.8: Report of the Expert Advisory Group on the WHO Global
Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel***

(Word count: 250)

● Thank You Chair,

Recognising the necessity for strengthening primary healthcare which is the foundation of UHC, India's comprehensive healthcare system delivers a range of services spanning preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative care under the Ayushman Bharat i.e (Long Live India) Scheme.

Around 185,000 Health and Wellness Centres, namely Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, have been established to bring health services closer to the community.

In addition, telemedicine has emerged as a vital bridge between primary and tertiary healthcare by enabling teleconsultations that reduce the need for physical referrals. Its growing impact is reflected in the fact that India has conducted over 447.5 million teleconsultations to date, demonstrating the transformative role of digital health in improving accessibility and efficiency of healthcare delivery.

Chair,

In alignment with the provisions of the WHO Global Code of Practice on International Recruitment of Health Personnel, India's international partnerships in health workforce mobility focus on fostering shared advantages, such as facilitating capacity building and workforce exchange initiatives.

Over the last decade, India has undertaken a monumental transformation of its medical education landscape. India's focused investments in medical education and regulatory reforms have resulted in a robust expansion of capacity , improved quality of training and a stronger healthcare workforce for positioning the country to effectively meet future healthcare challenges.

Chair,

India underscores the importance of ensuring sustainable financing for primary healthcare to ensure equitable access, strengthen health systems, and advance universal health coverage.

India also urges Member States to advocate for leveraging mutual strengths, reducing barriers to mobility, ensuring the quality and competency of the health workforce, and addressing safety and security concerns.

Thank You!