

79th World Health Assembly (WHA79)
18th to 23rd May 2026



Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

Intervention by India

Agenda Item

12.6: Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

12.10: Harmonization of regulatory approaches, governance and standards for data, digital health and artificial intelligence in the health sector

(Word Count: 234)

Thank you Chair,

India appreciates the WHO's leadership in presenting these critical agendas. As we strive toward the health-related SDGs by 2030, India has made steady progress across several indicators. Notable gains in maternal and child health, life expectancy, and service coverage underscore our commitment to equitable progress. To align sub-national strategies with global commitments, we have institutionalized SDGs within our Programme Implementation Plans. Furthermore, the PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission is actively bridging critical gaps in infrastructure across rural and urban settings.

Chair,

India believes robust digital and data foundations are prerequisites for safe, effective health systems. **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)** demonstrates the transformative potential of interoperable, citizen-centric digital public infrastructure for health. This ecosystem is supported by a comprehensive governance framework, for establishing privacy, consent and responsible data processing, through the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023. India has launched the **National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare (SAHI)** for the responsible deployment of smart health initiatives to strengthen the country's AI ecosystem.

To accelerate progress, India emphasizes prioritizing high-burden districts and vulnerable populations and need for digitally enabled health systems capable of responding to emerging global health challenges.

This calls for strengthening the commitment towards advancing safe, equitable and people-centric digital health systems and sustainable financing mechanisms. India reaffirms its commitment to support the harmonisation of regulatory approaches, governance frameworks and standards to further strengthen the health framework.

Thank you.