

79th Session of World Health Assembly
18th to 23rd May 2026, Geneva



Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

Intervention by India (2 minute)

Agenda 13.1 :- Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee

Agenda item 13.2:- Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)

(Word count: 233)

Thank you, Chair.

India appreciates the comprehensive and transparent report of the **Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee on the WHO Health Emergencies Programme**. The growing frequency, scale and complexity of **health emergencies, driven by climate change, conflicts, humanitarian crises and fragile health systems**, continue to pose significant challenges to global health security. While WHO has demonstrated commendable leadership in responding to these emergencies, persistent gaps in

preparedness, sustainable financing and coordinated response capacities warrant continued global attention and collective action.

Chair,

India reaffirms its strong commitment to the effective implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) as a cornerstone of global health security and of pandemic preparedness, prevention and response. India continues to strengthen core capacities under Annex 1 of the amended IHR (2005) through the **dedicated Disease Surveillance Programme, laboratory strengthening through the nationwide laboratory network like Virus Research Diagnostic Laboratory network and targeted workforce development initiatives**. Particular emphasis has been placed on strengthening health emergency management systems, points of entry and border health capacities, preparedness for radiation, nuclear and chemical emergencies, and infection prevention and control practices, supported through dedicated financial and technical investments.

India is aligning its national systems with the 2024 amendments to the IHR, including measures towards implementation of its amendments. India reiterates its commitment to strengthened international cooperation for the effective prevention, preparedness for timely detection and response to public health emergencies through IHR (2005).

Thank you!