

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



Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

Intervention by India (2 mins)

Agenda Item 15.2: Well-being and Health Promotion

Agenda Item 15.5: Draft strategy on the economics of health for all

(Word count: 231)

Thank you, Chair.

India aligns with the global framework for integrating well-being into public health and supports its emphasis on whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to advance physical, mental, social and environmental well-being. India supports reorienting public health systems beyond disease control towards health promotion, prevention, and resilience across the life course.

India's Mental Health Programme adopts a decentralized, community-based approach by integrating mental health and well-being into primary healthcare. Frontline workers promote awareness, reduce stigma, and strengthen community engagement, particularly in underserved areas. By embedding

mental health support into everyday community life, we are making care not just accessible, but also inclusive and connected.

Chair,

India also recognizes that strategic investment in health is essential for equitable economic development and UHC. India's National Health Policy 2017 facilitates outcome-driven public health expenditure. The Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY scheme, the world's largest government-funded health assurance programme, provides cashless secondary and tertiary care to the most vulnerable.

To sustain implementation, India suggests embedding well-being and health promotion into national and subnational planning and budgeting processes, and strengthening linkages across public health. India calls for global investment in health promotion infrastructure and community-led wellness platforms as essential components of people-centered health systems. We call for strengthened global cooperation in sustainable health financing, prioritizing primary healthcare, integrating health impact assessments into policymaking, and requests WHO support for developing necessary tools in line with national priorities.

Thank You!