REPUBLIC OF LEBANON
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Lebanon Statement on Item 20.1: Reform of the global health architecture and the UN80 initiative

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Mr Chair, Esteemed members of the Board, distinguished delegates,

Lebanon welcomes this timely report at a moment when the global health landscape continues to evolve under the pressures of shrinking development assistance, complex emergencies, and heightened geopolitical tensions. As we are recovering from years of compounded crises, the proposed reforms to the global health architecture and the UN80 Initiative carry both profound implications and important opportunities.

Fragmentation across global health actors has long strained our national system, creating duplication and sometimes misalignment with country priorities. Lebanon therefore stresses that global reform must place country leadership at its core, ensuring that national priorities guide collective action. We also highlight the importance of inclusiveness, with specialized organizations, academia, civil society, and humanitarian partners working alongside WHO to deliver coherent support across humanitarian, development, and peace domains.

The UN80 Initiative's focus on mandate clarity, structural coherence, and agile country-level operations is highly appreciated. For us, a reformed global health architecture must be equitable, resilient, and speaks to the realities of preparedness for any threats, response to emergencies and recovery from our lagging crises, together with addressing the growing burden of noncommunicable diseases.

We strongly support WHO's proposal for a joint, inclusive process to define a common global health architecture framework. Any new operating model must reinforce-not dilute-WHO's normative leadership and technical authority, particularly where national capacities remain fragile.

Lebanon remains committed to shaping a global health architecture that delivers real impact, strengthens resilience, and ensures that WHO remains at the center of coordination, while countries lead based on their priorities and benefit from the inclusiveness of specialized organizations.

Thank you.