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Seventy-ninth World Health Assembly
Sub-item 20.1 – Reform of the global health architecture and the UN80 Initiative

2' speaking time – 2 minutos e 8 segundos

Chair,
Director-General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

Portugal aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and is grateful to the Director-General for the report.

The ongoing discussions on the reform of the global health architecture represent an important opportunity to improve coordination, coherence and effectiveness across the global health ecosystem, while preserving WHO's central normative and convening role.

The current landscape has delivered important gains over recent decades, but it has also become increasingly fragmented and complex.

In the context of growing financial constraints and evolving global health challenges, improving cooperation between actors is essential to ensure greater impact, efficiency and country ownership.

Portugal therefore welcomes the proposed WHO-hosted joint process and supports an approach that remains pragmatic.

At the same time, we believe this process should be sufficiently open and inclusive, engaging relevant actors beyond Member States whose expertise, experience and



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contributions are essential to strengthening global health cooperation.

Broad ownership across regions and stakeholders will be essential to ensure that the process is legitimate, credible, and sustainable over the long term.

Portugal also underlines the importance of building on existing initiatives and evidence, avoiding duplication, and ensuring that reforms remain feasible and balanced, while being adequately resourced to support their sustainability and long-term impact for countries and communities.

We remain committed to working constructively with WHO and all partners to strengthen a more coherent, equitable and effective global health architecture.

Thank you.

237 words