

14.3. Polio

Dear Chair,

Ukraine fully supports the WHO Polio Eradication Strategy 2022 to 2026 and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative Action Plan for 2026.

Poliomyelitis remains a serious global health threat, especially for children conflict-affected areas. Ukraine believes that strong immunization systems, effective surveillance, and timely outbreak response are essential to achieving a polio-free world.

Despite the ongoing full-scale war and the significant pressure on our healthcare system, Ukraine remains committed to its international obligations in the field of immunization and disease prevention.

Following the poliovirus outbreak detected in Ukraine in 2021, the Government of Ukraine, together with WHO and UNICEF, implemented vaccination campaigns, strengthened epidemiological surveillance, and carried out catch-up immunization activities. These coordinated efforts helped stop the outbreak and improve protection for children.

According to the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, vaccination coverage indicators have improved in 2025, and Ukraine continues working toward the WHO-recommended target of 95% coverage.

Ukraine also continues surveillance in cooperation with WHO and the Public Health Center of Ukraine in order to ensure early detection and rapid response to any possible cases.

We highly appreciate the continued support of WHO, UNICEF, and international partners in providing vaccines, technical expertise, and assistance during this difficult period.

Ukraine calls on the international community to maintain sustainable financing and strong global cooperation to ensure that every child is protected from poliomyelitis.

I Thank you.