Thank you, Mr. Chair.

02. Bangladesh expresses its deep appreciation to the PBAC chair, Professor Faical Ben Salah for producing the report. We are happy that work is in progress on 80% of the 120 recommendations on vital issues including resource mobilization and allocation, management, and gender equality made by the Committee in its two meetings last year.

03. My delegation always emphasized that predictable funding is imperative for realizing the objectives of the WHO. We welcome the proposal of the PBAC to form a working group to identify the principles of funding and present a report to the WHA in 2021.

Mr. Chair,

04. The PBAC had comprehensive discussions on the report of the Independent Expert Oversight Advisory Committee and rightly approved the IEOAC’s focused work particularly in the areas of cybersecurity and fraud prevention, mental health management of the Organization’s staff members. We request the Secretariat to take note of the PBAC’s emphasis on the implementation of the recommendations of the IEOAC, provide further updates on the implementation status as well as the challenges it faced during the implementation process.

04. We see the rationale behind the Committee’s recommendation for pursuing the two-phase approach to prepare the Proposed Programme Budget 2022–2023, the budget increase, and the extension of the date for the achievement of the triple billion targets of the Thirteenth General Programme of Work to 2025.
05. We are aware that at the country level available funding is not commensurate with the needs of the Member States to implement the WHO Transformation Strategy. In this regard, we would like to ask the secretariat to provide us information on the steps it is going to take to overcome these gaps.

Mr. Chair,

06. We are happy that the PBAC has noted our request to recruit more women professionals particularly at the country offices. We reiterate our call to further improve geographical representation from unrepresented and underrepresented countries. We also support the development of the diversity and inclusion strategy for the WHO workforce following the principles agreed within the United Nations common system and ask the Secretariat to keep the Member States informed.

Mr. Chair,

07. To conclude, my delegation urges that the recommendations of the PBAC are duly noted by the WHO and put to action for supporting governments in enhancing national capacity, for maintaining its leadership role in health technology and data, and also for ensuring health security of the people around the world.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.

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