

Statement by Pakistan at 152nd session the WHO Executive Board (EB152) Agenda 12.1: Strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies

(31 January 2023)

Thank you, Madam President

Pakistan aligns itself with the statement delivered by Syrian Arab Republic on behalf of EMRO on this agenda item.

Pakistan recognizes the significance of WHO's work during health emergencies and commend the organization's leadership in raising awareness, and in mobilizing support for equitable and affordable access to diagnostics, therapeutics, and medicines.

We welcome the ten proposals by the Director General to tackle future Health Emergencies based on the principles of Coherence, Equity, and Inclusivity. These principles must remain the cornerstone of our future work on preparedness and response to future health emergencies.

Mobilization of international public and private finance is also essential to develop resilient prevention and response tools to navigate future international health emergencies.

We continue to underline that the future architecture to prevent and respond to global health emergencies must be embedded in the principles of equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities CBDR as well as the need for adequate international assistance and cooperation framework including technology sharing.

Pakistan has been actively engaged in the process of targeted amendments to International Health Regulations (2005) as well as in the process of drafting a Pandemic Treaty or Instrument. Both these processes remain critical to guide the future work of WHO and providing a framework to combat future Health Emergencies.

WHO's Contingency Fund for Emergencies provides critical lifeline during Health Emergencies. Pakistan benefited from the fund during last year's floods. And we are grateful for WHO's support. Yet additional avenues of financing and support mechanisms are necessary.

I thank you