



**Statement by Pakistan at WHO Executive Board (150th Session),
“Standing Committee on Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness and Response” on
26 January 2022**

Mr. Chairman and distinguished delegates,

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted gaps in the existing global health security landscape. The need for adequately resourced emergency preparedness and response architecture is therefore essential. Shaping effective response strategies to navigate and manage future pandemic would require scaling up the existing level of international collaboration and aligning it with national needs in order to develop strong resilient, and integrated health systems. Some of the lessons learned from the outbreak of this pandemic include the need for enhanced investments in national and global pandemic preparedness, detection and response mechanisms; strengthening of core capacities under IHR & improved pandemic response financing mechanisms.

Mr. Chairman,

Pakistan supports on-going efforts to strengthen preparedness and response plans and strategies. We are open to initiatives that can improve WHO's governance and capacity in responding to health emergencies, including the proposed standing committee. However, it is vital that the Terms of Reference should be thoroughly discussed through an inclusive manner before a decision can be taken. Special attention should be paid to avoid unnecessary duplication with existing mechanisms and legal framework, such as IHR.

I thank you.