



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN
Geneva

**Comments by Ambassador Tehmina Janjua,
Permanent Representative of Pakistan on Taiwan**

Mr. Chairman,

Pakistan strongly endorses the principled statement made by the Chinese Delegation on Taiwan. We unequivocally support the 'One China' policy and China's efforts to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

There is only one China. Taiwan is its integral part. This is an indisputable fact. No amount of questioning or debate can alter this reality. The General Committee of the UN, year after year, has reached only one conclusion- that is, China is a sovereign member state of the United Nations and Taiwan, being its integral part, has no right whatsoever to claim the membership of this world body,

We, therefore, condemn divisive efforts to introduce this issue in the World Health Organization. These efforts negate international law and constitute unacceptable interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state.

Mr. Chairman,

It is deeply troubling that these efforts are repeatedly instigated by certain powers which have played a disreputable colonial role in the region. We, cannot forget what was done, in the not so distant past, by these very powers to divide and weaken China. Peddling narcotics in the guise of free trade, imposing punitive treaties, carving out territorial concessions- these are actions that are embedded in our historical memory. The repeated attempts to raise the Taiwan issue cannot be delinked from the reprehensible history of these powers to undermine China. But, these attempts are bound to fail. Their proponents need to come to terms with the reality of a strong, united China. The dragon is once more poised to soar

through the heavens. And, petty stratagems, such as this motion, cannot deter its inevitable, magnificent ascent.

Mr. Chairman,

It is most unfortunate that this issue is raised in the WHA, for it is a needless distraction from the many urgent and critical health challenges that Member States must address. The world faces unprecedented health crises, be it the alarming prospects of pandemics, or the looming threat of antimicrobial resistance. It is imperative that we maintain our focus on issues that affect the health and well being of women and men around the world.

In this regard, we must commend the Government of China for keeping health considerations paramount in relation to Taiwan. The constructive arrangements made by China, including the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Ministry of Health of People's Republic of China and the WHO in May 2005, to facilitate technical exchanges between Taiwan and the WHO on health-related issues have helped keep the focus on health issues. This constructive approach by China needs to be fully supported.

Mr. Chairman,

In view of these considerations, we call upon the World Health Assembly to out rightly reject this ill-considered motion.

I thank you.
