
World Health Organization
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5.4 Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Thank you Chair,

We welcome the Director General's report on the further Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and thank the secretariat for the thoroughly detailed information provided on the progress made towards achieving SDG 3. Through it, we see the long way we still have ahead.

We find data presented in the report on air pollution extremely alarming. We commend the WHO's work in creating a multi-sectoral discussion surrounding this topic in the First WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health in Geneva this November. We emphasize the importance of concrete national plans in implementing the ambition in combating air pollution and other danger, including exposure to dangerous chemicals, and encourage WHO to further develop guidelines for such plans.

We appreciate and support the "one United Nations" approach and encourage WHO's commitment to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the operational activities at the country level and the engagement of WHO in the UN country teams within the global efforts to achieve the SDGS.

We encourage the efforts to strengthen health information systems as they have a critical role in supporting and evaluating all the work done and allows us to align WHO's work with other efforts to implement the SDGs. We support the work to develop a technical package of health information standards and tools to strengthen country information systems.

As mentioned before, the idea of a seamless organization is welcomed and we support the goal of having one clear affiliation rather than multiple engagement with a specific program. We also realize the different regions have different needs, as different countries and programs. This is why reaching a seamless organization depends on the guidance of headquarters. We are confident that with the completion and approval of the program budget and transformation plan, it will be easier to reach a "one WHO" view where there will be greater alignment between the levels of the organization.

We thank you chair.