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**World Health Organization**  
**EB 144 – January 2019**

**9.1 Appointment of the Regional Director for South-East Asia**

Delivered by Israel, on behalf of the EURO region

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Thank you Chair,

On behalf of the WHO EURO region we would like to congratulate you, Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh, on your re-election as Regional Director of WHO South-East Asia Region.

The South-East Asia Region is central to global health, as it makes up over a quarter of the world's population. In this scale, any success, big or small, transforms the lives of millions of people.

We acknowledge your achievements in the past 5 years, leading your region to many accomplishments, among them: meeting and surpassing polio related goals, marking important mile stones in reversing the HIV, TB and malaria epidemics and becoming the second region to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus.

You have shown great leadership in launching the South-East Asia Regulatory Network, that helps the Region's 1.8 billion people access safe, high-quality medical products, and advancing National Action Plans for AMR in each of the Region's countries.

With these goals met, we wish you 5 more productive and successful years leading the South East Asia region, continuing to transform health systems across the region and the lives of millions of people.

Congratulations!