



**Statement by Pakistan at the 76th World Health Assembly
(WHA76)**

***“Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an
observer”***

21-30 May 2023

Thank you, Mr. President,

Pakistan supports China's statement on the matter of Taiwan's participation as an observer at the World Health Assembly. We reiterate our full support for "One China" principle and China's efforts to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

UN General Assembly Resolution (Resolution 2758) and World Health Assembly Resolution (Resolution 25.1) provide the World Health Organization with a strong legal basis to address this issue within the framework of the One China Principle. And we urge all parties to respect China's position in this regard.

Mr. President,

As we understand, the channels of communication and cooperation for the Taiwan Region's participation in WHO technical field are smooth and open. Under the precondition of abiding by One China principle, experts from the region can participate in relevant WHO technical meetings.

We also welcome the continued cooperation between China's central government and experts from the Taiwan region during the COVID-19

Pandemic, including through timely technical information sharing. Under the current regulations, Taiwan can exchange information, including reporting on health emergencies, with the WHO and other parties without any obstacles.

Mr. President,

Divisive measures like this agenda not only undermine the work of this important forum, but also run counter to the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter. WHA is a technical forum, and WHO is a specialized UN agency, therefore bringing up matters of such political and sensitive nature takes the focus away from other important public health issues and run counter to the principles of state sovereignty and international solidarity.

Aim of this health assembly should be to cater to the global public health challenges, including the continuing impact of COVID-19 pandemic, inequity in global health architecture, and adverse health impacts resulting directly from climate change.

We should focus on strengthening multilateral cooperation to address these challenges and improve global health governance, rather than delving into matters that have already been resolved.

I thank you.
