

WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY 74th **Session** (virtual) (24 May2021)

"Inviting Taiwan to participate in the World Health Assembly as an observer" (Supplementary agenda item)

Mr. Chairman,

Pakistan endorses the statement delivered by China on the issue of Taiwan. There is only one China, with Taiwan region as its inalienable part.

Pakistan reiterates its full support to China in its efforts to safeguard its sovereignty, territorial integrity and achieve national re-unification.

The United Nations General Assembly resolution 2758 and World Health Assembly resolution 25.1 provide the legal foundation to deal with Taiwan's participation in the activities of international organizations including the WHO under the one-China principle.

This Assembly is meeting at an important juncture. There is a myriad of unparalleled socio-economic consequences of COVID-19 and their devastating impacts on health and healthcare. The enormity of these challenges requires full attention and focus on issues of common and global concern. The 74th WHA session should therefore deliberate and develop effective solutions to counter the present and emerging health challenges, not least the removal of restrictions to accelerate production of COVID vaccines, medicines and ensure their equitable distribution.

Pakistan therefore opposes any proposal for inclusion of supplementary agenda item regarding Taiwan's participation in the WHA. These politically motivated efforts, designed to disrupt the WHA proceedings are divisive, counterproductive and violate the principles of UN Charter. Therefore, any discussion on the Taiwan question should not be entertained by this Assembly.

I thank you.
