



## Statement by Pakistan at the 77<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly

(WHA77)

*“13.4: Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB)”*

*28 May 2024*

**Mr. President,**

We thank the bureau for submitting its outcome to the Health Assembly, and for its leadership to guide the process.

Pakistan recognizes the significant progress that has been made on many provisions of the Agreement.

This was a difficult process from the beginning. Loss of 7 million lives certainly merited a robust revision and strengthening of an equity-based global health architecture.

Although, it is unfortunate that we do not have a final agreement at this stage, we need to preserve the progress that has been made so far and work towards effective conclusion of this process.

Our process to negotiate a legal instrument started with a commitment to ‘equity’. It is for all of us to judge for ourselves that to what extent does the draft text conform to that commitment.

Our objective should remain to produce a document which provides for strong commitments to prevent, prepare for, and respond to future pandemics, rather than a caveat-filled aspirational declaration.

**Mr. President,**

We have co-sponsored draft decision as contained in document A77/A/CONF./12 because we believe that the current situation merits a comprehensive discussion on what the next steps should be.

Pakistan supports an early conclusion of the process so that further work on operational elements of the Instrument could begin.

We still look forward to having robust provisions on implementation and support, which can allow developing countries to allocate more resources towards capacity building to enhance their prevention and surveillance capacities.

Pakistan will remain constructively engaged to finalize an Agreement which operationalizes Equity.

We support your proposal to engage in one drafting group to finalize the resolution so that we can work in an efficient manner on the next steps.

We look forward to further discussions in the drafting group and reaching a conclusion on the future timeline.

**I thank you.**

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