

156th Session of WHO Executive Board Meeting

3rd to 11th February 2025, Geneva



**Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India**

Intervention by India

Agenda Item 6: Universal health coverage

Thank you chair,

India recognizes that Universal Health Care is not merely a healthcare goal but a fundamental human right and a cornerstone for achieving SDGs. India acknowledges the importance of strengthening primary health care as a key element towards achieving UHC.

Chair

India has a multifaceted approach to strengthen primary healthcare and improving population health outcomes. The establishment of more than 170,000 Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAMs) or Primary Health Centres across the country represents a significant step towards a comprehensive and equitable healthcare system. These centres aim to deliver a range of health services, encompassing preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative care for individuals of all ages.

The Healthcare transformation in India is underpinned by nine strategic reforms encompassing service delivery, human resource development, financial sustainability, infrastructure enhancement, access to essential medicines and diagnostics, robust information technology systems, active community engagement, collaborative partnerships and the seamless integration of healthcare services across all levels of care.

Chair

To mitigate the financial risks associated with healthcare access, India's flagship program Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) provides comprehensive health insurance coverage to the most vulnerable segments of the Indian population including all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, thereby enhancing social protection and promoting equitable access to quality healthcare services.

Chair

Recognizing the pivotal role of digital health in advancing Universal Health Coverage, India suggests that Secretariat prioritize the digital health agenda for the third high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on UHC in 2027. By leveraging digital health technologies, we can effectively enhance access to quality, affordable and timely healthcare services, ensuring equitable and inclusive health outcomes for all. We would also request for more information on Health Impact Investment Platform, particularly on the projects that they would be funding.

Thank you!