

Statement of I.R. Iran on

"Progress report on the regional framework on ending preventable newborn, child and adolescent deaths and improving health and development"

**Mr./Madam Chairperson,
Excellences, ladies and gentlemen**

We appreciate the RD for this valuable report especially for paying attention to imposing a double burden on newborns, children and adolescents as vulnerable groups during crises. We emphasize the need to pay more attention to the issue of equity in health mentioned in paragraph 19.

According to the second strategic area mentioned in the fifth paragraph, about equity in health and universal health coverage, we would like to highlight that the Islamic Republic of Iran, as a secure country in the midst of many regional crises, has always accepted and supported the refugees from FCV countries and has provided free health services (especially PHC) to women, infants, children and adolescents graciously following the WHO slogan i.e., "Health for All by All". Considering the massive influx of migrants and refugees into Iran and some countries, the health systems of host states should spend heavy costs and take extra-burden to maintain and improve refugees' health, so it is necessary to provide adequate financial support to such receiving countries.

Also, it is necessary to remember that despite geographical proximity, the regional states are very different in terms of health systems and indicators, therefore, to reduce the preventable deaths of infants, children and adolescents' context-tailored programs are needed which is not considered in the document. We would suggest countries of this region are divided based on the NMR and U5MR indicators then specific solutions are offered for each group. Afterward, the I.R. Iran, as a country with long-duration experiences in developing a PHC model of care and successful practices in reducing NMR and U5MR, offers to invite representatives of interested countries with WHO support to visit the PHC system and its executive programs, in order to exchange lessons learned and good practices so on return the focal points of affected states can develop the country-owned, specific- & context-oriented programs to address preventable deaths of these subgroups of population better .

Also, in line with paragraph 22 i.e. the emphasis on benefiting digital health and innovations, Iran has an electronic registry (called EHR) for the cares provided to pregnant women in its PHC before, during and after delivery as well as to newborns, children and adolescents, that can be demonstrated during such inter-country visits.

Madam/Mr. chair, thank you for the floor.

**Deputy for Public Health
Ministry of Health & Medical Education
The Islamic Republic of Iran**