



**CHAIR
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
GENEVA CHAPTER**



**Statement
on behalf of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement
at the 146th session of the WHO Executive Board**

**delivered by Ms. Aydan Muradova,
Second Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the
UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

Geneva, 3 February 2020

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

Before I begin, I would like to offer our heartfelt condolences to the family of Dr. Peter Salama, Executive Director for Universal Health Coverage – Life Course.

Mr. Chairman,

The NAM Member States wish to express their appreciation to the WHO Director-General for the presented comprehensive report.

The NAM Member States attach high importance to their existing successful cooperation with the World Health Organization and commend Director-General's determined efforts to strengthen WHO and make it more efficient and effective, in order to become an even more relevant organization, able to better serve the humanity.

In this regard, the NAM Member States thank the Director General and WHO staff for the information provided on the work that is being carried out with regard to the WHO transformation agenda and strongly support continued efforts towards achieving the "triple billion" targets, as envisaged in the Thirteenth General Programme of Work, and approved by the Seventy First World Health Assembly.

The NAM Member States reiterate their commitment to achieve Universal Health Coverage, which is undoubtedly the key objective for the achievement of the health-related SDGs.

There is a pressing need to promote new thinking on innovation and access to health products and technologies including by means of implementation of the recommendations of the Global Strategy and the Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property as well as to support the development, control, distribution and appropriate use of new and alternative drugs, diagnostic tools, and vaccines especially generics while preserving existing drugs and promoting affordable access. Further, efforts at integrating evidence-based traditional and complementary systems of medicine, including yoga, into existing healthcare systems to provide a holistic approach to health and wellbeing, should be supported.

In the Final Document adopted at the 18th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement, held on 25-26 October 2019 in Baku, Azerbaijan, the Heads of State and Government welcomed the adoption of the General Assembly resolution on the High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage, which was held on 23 September 2019, and the adoption of a political declaration.

Promoting new and emerging health related technologies could help realize equitable, affordable and universal healthcare for all and in this regard, we welcome the WHO digital health strategy 2020-24 in accordance with WHA resolution 71.7 of May 2018 and request the WHO to support including by hosting digital health partnerships that strengthen the implementation of digital health by leveraging the capabilities of various relevant stakeholders.

Mr. Chairman,

The 18th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement welcomed the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, held in New York on 27 September 2018, and reaffirmed its political declaration.

The NAM Member States express their concern about global threats posed by health epidemics especially regarding the outbreak of the novel coronavirus, which has been declared as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern by WHO, and its adverse impact on the affected countries, especially in the People's Republic of China. We support the efforts made by the government of China to find a solution to combat this epidemic outbreak.

The NAM Member States encourage the WHO to strengthen its assistance to all countries, particularly to vulnerable population in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, to advance Universal Health Coverage and the health related SDGs towards achieving Health for All.

The NAM Member States recognize the close relationship between foreign policy and global health and their interdependence, and in that regard also recognize that global health

challenges require concerted and sustained efforts by the international community in the true spirit of solidarity.

We urge donors and partners to honour their financial commitments and assist in the strengthening of national health systems through capacity building and technology transfer, making full use of available flexibilities, to help address the public health needs of their populations and the health emergencies through better preparedness and to promote access to affordable healthcare and all health related products and technologies including medicines, diagnostics and vaccines for all as a global priority.

We call on all Member States to strengthen multilateralism and international cooperation, and refrain from adopting and implementing unilateral coercive measures and unilateral economic sanctions which adversely affect the provision of health care services, jeopardize the existing achievements at national and regional levels in the area of Universal Health Care, and undermine global efforts in achieving health related Sustainable Development Goals.

The NAM Member States express their readiness to continue collaborating with WHO in ensuring that the fundamental human right – the right to health is ensured for everyone on this planet and that no one is left behind.

Thank you.