

156th Session of WHO Executive Board Meeting

3rd to 11th February 2025, Geneva

Intervention by India

Agenda Item 13: Draft Global Traditional Medicine Strategy (2025-2034)

Thank you madam chair,

The draft Global Traditional Medicine (TM) Strategy (2025-2034) is guided by the earlier WHO TM strategy 2014-2023 which prioritized strengthening TM at global, national and local health systems. India recognizes the valuable contribution the Global TM strategy has made in supporting the member states to promote its safe and effective use.

India has undertaken various initiatives for the effective implementation of the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy (2014–2023). The establishment of WHO-Global Traditional Medicine Centre at Jamnagar, Gujarat was a pivotal step aiming to provide support to nations in developing TM policies & action plans. The centre will also work to ensure quality, safety and efficacy, accessibility and rational use of traditional medicine and to develop norms, standards and guidelines in relevant technical areas, tools and methodologies, for collecting data undertaking analytics and assess impact.

Madam Chair,

The draft traditional medicine strategy (2025–2034) was prepared in consultation with the member states and India had conveyed its comments on the strategy on several important aspects.

In line with the UHC, the aspects of Quality and affordability are to be incorporated alongside safety aspects; re-orienting the health work force by developing training modules for the efficient and encourage member states to register TCIM clinical trials. However, specifically mentioning

any Clinical Trial registry is to be avoided. Alternatively, an annex may be added listing all the clinical trial registries linked with WHO primary register

India appreciates the proposed holistic approach of the new strategy, particularly its emphasis on integration. We also commend the incorporation of India's suggestions, which we believe will further strengthen the role of traditional medicine in advancing universal health coverage.

Thank you!