**Statement of the Republic of Slovenia**

**75th Session of the World Health Assembly**

**22–28 May 2022**

**Agenda item 13: Sustainable financing: Report of the Working Group**

Excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen,

Slovenia fully aligns itself with the statement made by France on behalf of the EU and its Member States.

Slovenia thanks the Working group on sustainable financing and its chair, Björn Kummel, for outstanding work in tackling this difficult subject, a matter of discussion for decades.

We believe that the final recommendations of the Working Group represent an important step forward to securing the Organizations financial sustainability. Slovenia has supported a raise in the assessed contributions during the discussions and we are glad that a consensus was found, even if it is a compromise. An important development is also the request to explore the feasibility of a replenishment mechanism and the establishment of the Task Group, which we are looking forward to hearing more about. It is important, however, that the work of already existing bodies, such as PBAC, is not duplicated.

Furthermore, we are encouraged by the willingness of the Member States to improve governance and managerial aspects of financing. We believe that in doing so we will not only ensure better, independent funding, but will also contribute to more transparent and responsible use of the Organizations resources. It is unacceptable that best WHO experts waste their time to secure financial resources due to unpredictable and inflexible funding and highly earmarked contributions. It is also unacceptable that our priorities are jeopardized by money not being aligned with them.

Slovenia fully supports the recommendations and stands ready to further engage in these discussions in the Member state task group.

Thank you.