

Provisional agenda: Universal health coverage: moving together to build a healthier world

Statement

MMI appreciates the opportunity to address the EB. This statement is supported by PHM.

We urge MSs to approach health care from a human rights perspective and to monitor the effective compliance of their national health care legislation with international human rights standards. In order to achieve SDG indicator 3.8.2. (reduction in catastrophic expenditure and preventing out of pocket expenditure on health) we urge MS and WHO to strengthen public health systems through the introduction of single payer systems, and public provisioning of health services based on Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) principles.

We regret the lack of clarity on policy options with regard to health care financing in WHO documents. We request WHO to provide assistance and help countries increase their capacity to implement progressive tax-based financing as it provides the most equitable model for achieving UHC.

CPHC approach informs the organizing principles of healthcare and attends to the social determinants of health, and it should not be substituted by selective primary care, or subordinated to UHC. We urge MS to assert that CPHC is a necessary prerequisite for the achievement of UHC and, therefore, urge MS to prioritise efforts towards CPHC.

We call upon WHO to produce a full analysis of the costs and benefits of mixed service delivery to better inform policy makers, particularly on the limitations of health insurance financing. We also urge the WHO to provide expert advice on the regulatory requirements and management capacity necessary in order to strengthen systems that defend equity, efficiency and quality.

