

## **Agenda Item: 8.5 Follow-up of the report of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination**

### **Statement:**

MMI would like to address agenda item 8.5. Our statement is supported by PHM.

We welcome progress made in the four areas of work reported in EB140/21. The over 85% funding gap to support this work is a signal that a voluntary pooled fund is inadequate.

Resolution WHA69.23 requested the DG to promote policy coherence. The CEWG Principles, and the notion that R&D should be needs-driven and grounded in de-linkage, should therefore be treated as a normative foundation for health R&D initiatives. These principles should be included in all WHO R&D initiatives (including AMR Stewardship framework). WHO, in its mandate to protect public health, should advocate their inclusion in initiatives outside the WHO too: especially AMR initiatives which may receive public funding.

Resolution 69.23 proposes an Open Ended Meeting in 2017. We urge the EB to convene this meeting, to continue unfinished discussions on the CEWG follow-up, including negotiating an R&D Agreement.

The scope and discussion that is needed today to address needs-driven innovation and access to medicines is different to what it was 15 years ago. These issues affect all countries, not only developing countries. They will not be solved by increasing investment into some projects. New R&D incentives and regulations are needed, delinking the price of medicines from the cost of R&D, to meet those needs that the current patent-driven system has not met.

The UNHLP report brings expertise and recommendations that can strengthen and renovate the work of the WHO in this area. Therefore, UNHLP deserves a separate discussion and endorsement by the WHO. Member States should be appropriately briefed and discuss recommendations at the national and international levels. We urge the WHO and Member States to implement the UNHLP's recommendations and to create a mechanism for the WHO to address the report.