FORUM: World Health Organisation (WHO)

<u>OUESTION OF</u>: Confronting and Eliminating Inequities in the Organ Transplantation System

<u>SUBMITTED BY:</u> United States of America (USA)

<u>CO-SUBMITTED BY</u>: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Peru, Qatar, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates (UAE), United Kingdom (UK)

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO),

Recognizing the crucial role organ transplantation plays in saving lives and improving health outcomes globally,

Acknowledging the disparities in access to organ transplantation due to socioeconomic, geographic, and systemic barriers,

Recalling the principles established in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), particularly the right to life, liberty, and security of person (Article 3), and the right to equal treatment without discrimination (Article 7),

Recalling relevant WHO guidelines and resolutions, including the WHO Guiding Principles on Cell, Tissue, and Organ Transplantation and WHA/63.22, which emphasize equity in healthcare,

Deeply concerned by the exploitation of vulnerable populations through coercion, organ trafficking, and biased allocation of organs,

Affirming the importance of technological innovations such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) in reducing human biases and expediting the organ allocation process,

Determined to address inequities in organ transplantation and promote a system based on fairness, impartiality, and clinical urgency,

- 1. <u>Calls upon</u> member states to strengthen regional and global cooperation to reduce disparities in organ transplantation systems, by:
 - a. promoting capacity-building efforts in Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) to enhance national healthcare infrastructures and improve organ donation systems, including:
 - i. the establishment of transplant centres,
 - ii. donor registries,
 - iii. healthcare professional training,

- encouraging knowledge-sharing and collaboration between More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs) and Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) to support the development of ethical and sustainable organ donation frameworks through means such as:
 - i. the establishment of international partnerships that allow the exchange of practices in organ donation and transplantation systems,
 - ii. the establishment of a global data-sharing system for records of organ transplantation surgeries and a detailed waiting list for each country in which all patients will be registered which will facilitate the training of healthcare professionals from LEDCs in transplant management by experts from MEDCs;
- 2. <u>Emphasises</u> the importance of raising awareness regarding the topic of organ donation through means such as but not limited to:
 - a. informing people in educational institutions such as schools and universities concerning the importance of organ donation and the reduction of inequalities in organ transplantation,
 - b. organising campaigns through which awareness will be raised concerning the topic of organ donation and its process;
- 3. <u>Endorses</u> the usage of Artificial intelligence (AI) for the purpose of Organ Allocation in order to find a suitable match of patients and organ donors, by taking the blood type, body size, tissue type, medical urgency, distance and waiting time of the patients, into consideration, in order to:
 - a. urge the development of digital platforms that enable more efficient matching of donors and recipients, improving fairness in organ allocation to:
 - i. ensure that the donation process is fair,
 - ii. accelerate the process of finding the right match of donor and recipient by generating an automatic search system,
 - b. recommending the establishment of partnerships with technology companies to support healthcare institutions in using digital tools for better organ management and tracking;
- 4. <u>Emphasizes</u> the importance of developing global ethical frameworks to guide organ transplantation practices worldwide which will include:
 - a. advocating and presenting case studies and best practices of international regulations which aim to prevent organ trafficking,
 - b. promoting the model of a self-sufficient donor database amongst active members of the communities to ensure that national needs are met;

- 5. <u>Proposes</u> the creation of an International Transplant Equity Fund (ITEF) which will be responsible for assisting patients and LEDCs financially concerning organ transplantation through:
 - a. supporting LEDCs in building transplant facilities and establishing financial assistance programs for transplant receivers,
 - b. subsidizing the cost of surgeries, medications, and follow-up care for lowincome patients,
 - c. funding research into low-cost transplantation methods and post-operative care;
- 6. <u>Recognizes</u> the importance of ensuring that vulnerable groups, including marginalized populations, have equal access to organ transplantation by:
 - a. urging governments and international organizations to invest in programs that support the equitable allocation of organs, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of socioeconomic status, race, or nationality, have equal opportunities for life-saving treatment;
 - b. calling for the establishment of safeguards to prevent the exploitation of vulnerable populations in organ trafficking and unethical transplant practices;
- 7. <u>Supports</u> the collaboration with related Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) which will serve to:
 - a. provide perspectives and insights of experts on the field on issues such as the discrimination and inequality that some patients face in the process of Organ Donation,
 - b. fund health bills of ill patients to ensure that their health will remain stable and to provide them with the best experiences possible;
- 8. <u>Supports</u> the improvement of healthcare infrastructure in underdeveloped and rural areas by:
 - a. establishing transplant-ready facilities in LEDCs, so that individuals in need have access to such procedures which will be achieved by:
 - i. building healthcare infrastructure and improving current healthcare infrastructure in those areas,
 - ii. send supplies needed for organ transplants, to medical health centers of those regions,
 - b. developing transportation networks, including aviation and road transport, to ensure the timely and efficient delivery of organs by:
 - i. building roads and runways near hospitals,
 - ii. funding aiport and helipad building,
 - c. training and assigning a specific number of volunteers to these areas, who will be:

- i. aiming to act as counsellors,
- ii. providing information on consent, and caretakers,
- iii. providing support and aftercare for transplant receivers.