Statement by IAPO

Agenda Item 8.6: Addressing Mental Health through primary care and community engagement in the WHO South-East Asia Region

APO acknowledges the report SEA/RC75/13. We concur that UHC 2030 and SDGs, along with health security, is only deliverable if we have a strong and comprehensive PHC.

IAPO advocates that a strong primary health care saves lives in times of crisis and calm.

IAPO wants patient, public, and private partnership within each Member State and an engagement of patients and PHC champions within Member State’s policymakers, health systems managers, advocates and others who are passionate about catalysing primary health care improvements in low- and middle-income countries.

IAPO further endorses that we must have evidence-informed effective and efficient strategies to strengthen primary health care within the area of:

• Capacity: Governance, Financing, and Inputs

• Performance: Management of Services & Population Health, Access & Availability and Quality

With the World Patient Safety Day on 17th September 2022, as the PHC is the first contact of a community with healthcare, we additional urge Member States to mark this day and implement the WHO Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2021-30 in full within PHC to build trust and patient safety in healthcare.

Thank you