

**72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe**  
**Statement of the Slovak Republic**  
**Item 11 – Elections and Nominations**

Chair,  
Director General,  
Regional Director,  
Excellencies,  
Colleagues,

Slovakia aligns itself with the statement of the Czech Republic made on behalf of the EU and its Member States on this agenda item.

Slovakia perceives with gratitude the agility of the Regional Director in relation to the efforts of increasing transparency, predictability and equity in the WHO governance.

We are highly positive about the fact that the progress has been made and the collective assessment of the candidature selection for EB and SCRC is now in place together with the notification of intentions to run for one or another WHO body.

However, we are still facing certain limitations in terms of inclusiveness. Slovakia sees the potential for a wider involvement of Member States in the candidatures assessment, which is to say that all interested Member States should have the possibility to be included into the procedure, without excluding the candidates themselves. Such approach would allow for incorporating all interested State Actors as well as it would strengthen the Member States' ownership and trust in the Region.

Slovakia is confident that the improvements made so far could be further embraced as an important turning point. Stemming from the best practices from other WHO Regions, we are ready to continue exploring this matter more in detail together with the Member States and the Secretariat.