

Statement of Hungary

Special session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe

(10 May 2022)

Madam Chair,

We would like to thank the Regional Director for convening today's special session. Please allow us to add the below points in our national capacity to the statement delivered by France in the name of the European Union and its Member States.

Regarding today's discussion, we would like to emphasise that Hungary wants peace to return to our region. We condemn the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, and we stand by the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine.

Hungary has made every effort to help people fleeing from the horrors of war. In a response to the historic magnitude of the crisis, Hungary has launched its largest ever humanitarian aid operation. To date, we have received more than 670 000 refugees from Ukraine and we have provided significant humanitarian aid, including donations of medical equipment to Ukraine. Hungary provides access for refugees to health care, shelter, food, education for the children; furthermore, we offer facilitated access to the labour market.

We have reserved dedicated capacities in our health system to provide care for all those in need, the care they need, including for example immunization, oncological care and treatment of chronic diseases, paediatric care and diabetology. We provide access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, in line with our national legislation. We also provide vaccination against infectious diseases, like COVID-19, and rapid antigen tests for screening.

Just last week, Mr Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary at the Warsaw Conference has pledged a further aid package of approximately 37 million Euros. Among the various elements of the package, Hungary is ready to help the reconstruction of a hospital and a school in Kyiv, or other location, determined by the competent Ukrainian authorities. We are ready to provide health care for an unlimited number of Ukrainian soldiers in our hospitals. Furthermore, we are ready to offer specialized paediatric treatment for 130 Ukrainian children in need. Last but not least, we are ready to offer mobile houses for internally displaced people

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the WHO European Region, its director, Dr Hans Kluge, and the WHO Office in Budapest for their excellent cooperation concerning the response to the crisis at hand. Please rest assured, Hungary is ready to further enhancing our efforts in this regard.

Thank you for your attention.