

## **65th World Health Assembly**

Item 13.14

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### **Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development: Financing and Coordination**

The EU and its Member States welcome the outcome of the drafting group and are most grateful to the Chair for his leadership. Thank you Viroj for helping us to identify the best way forward.

We recognize the need to address the serious problem of the lack of outputs of research and development in health products of benefit to developing countries. And we are committed to action in this area.

As already mentioned in our statement on Tuesday, our priority, our engagement and our vision is to progress on this major issue step by step with the view to reinforcing and enlarging the initiatives already put in place while preparing the decisions to be taken by the 66th WHA.

The aim of the EU and its Member States during the last days of these negotiations was to have a basis for further discussions in order to consider the recommendations of the report of the Expert Working Group while putting the fruit of their wisdom into perspective with the feedback received from the different interested parties at the national and European levels.

I would like to conclude by stressing that we will need the advice and support of the WHO Secretariat to help to identify in a budget-constrained environment the most appropriate and cost-effective sequencing of decisions, options and concrete actions. If possible, we stand ready to consider early deliverables.

Thank you for your attention.