WRITTEN STATEMENT BY WFMH

The WFMH will collaborate with WHO SEAR programs to attain the objectives of the Paro Declaration, and will

- 1. Carry out Mental Health Day Theme Year-Long Activities and Global Report projects in collaboration with the WHO. WMHD 2024 theme "IT IS TIME TO PRIORITIZE MENTAL HEALTH IN THE WORKPLACE" will last from October 2024 to in October 2025. There should be events related to the theme by the WFMH and other organizations during the year. The findings of the event should be reported in accordance with the format to be developed by the WHO Headquarters. WFMH Regional representatives can collaborate with the WHO Regional Office to encourage these events. When the WFMH gathers these reports after October 2025, there will be a WFMH Global Report on the theme, which can be sent to stakeholders, including WHO offices.
- **2.** Assist in capacity building of NGOs involved in mental health care delivery.
- **3.** Create community mental health networks with multiple points of access to mental health services, in addition to integrating mental healthcare with primary healthcare services.
- **4.** Engage with communities to create mental health awareness, fight stigma, and promote mental health and resilience, especially among adolescents.
- **5.** Involve all stakeholders, including persons with lived experiences and their families who in the SEA Region most often bear the burden of care for fighting stigma and discrimination.

Appeal that a significant part of the national health budget of SEAR countries, be earmarked for mental health, and that mental health be made an essential part of all undergraduate medical courses, and that mental healthcare laws and other regulations be revised to be rights-oriented as well as culturally contextual where human rights, including the right to treatment of persons with mental illness, are adequately protected.