

**SPEAKING NOTES BY MINISTER OF HEALTH, DR JOE PHAAHLA  
DURING THE 72<sup>ND</sup> SESSION OF THE WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE  
FOR AFRICA, IN TOGO FROM MONDAY, 22 – FRIDAY, 26 AUGUST  
2022.**

**DISCUSSION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL  
DIRECTOR ON THE WORK OF WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION IN  
THE AFRICAN REGION (DOCUMENT AFR/RC72/3)**

**Chairperson**

Given the current priorities and urgent needs, the interventions will need to be carefully sequenced - some in the immediate term (e.g. mainstreaming COVID-19 vaccination, testing, treatment etc.), and others in mid to long term

It is important for us to continuously re-assess our public health approach and use the lessons we have learnt throughout these three surges to prepare for future resurgences and to improve the resilience of our health systems.

I thank you.