



## **WHA 70**

**(Geneva, 22-31 May 2017)**

### **ITALY**

#### **WHA 70 – COMMITTEE A. Item 17 Progress Report**

SUB-ITEM on:

**“Towards universal eye health - Global Action Plan 2014-2019 adopted by Resolution WHA 66.4”**

We welcome the report contained in document A70/38 and we appreciate WHO efforts and activities concerning this important issue.

Capacity building, development of new tools, advocacy are essential elements for the implementation of the Global Action Plan 2014 – 2019.

Technical assistance to Member States is also fundamental.

We would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm the support of Italy to the activities of WHO on universal eye health and the prevention of avoidable blindness and visual impairment, as proven by the fact that we have a WHO Collaborating Centre based in Rome which is not only dealing with prevention of blindness but also with rehabilitation a field that – in our views – deserves more attention and support.

Thank you.