I thank you.

We must learn the lessons of today so that we are prepared for the threats of tomorrow. And even as we respond to the current crisis, we have to be planning ahead for the long-term.

This is why President von der Leyen and President Emmanuel Macron joined with WHO to create the Our World in Data Project, we are releasing a new publication entitled “Health: A Political Choice: Act Now, Recover, Transform”. This is why President von der Leyen and President Emmanuel Macron joined with WHO to create the Our World in Data Project, we are releasing a new publication entitled “Health: A Political Choice: Act Now, Recover, Transform”. Finally, I also have the pleasure of announcing that together with the Global Governance Group, chaired by the former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Helen Clark, and the former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, we are launching the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA). What the world needs is leadership that is dedicated to saving lives. And I would like to give a special thanks to my close friend, His Excellency Jens Spahn, the Minister of Health of the Federal Republic of Germany, who has been a steadfast supporter of WHO’s work and a champion for multilateral action and support for health.

I would like to begin by acknowledging the unstinting support that we have received from Governments around the world, in particular those who have generously supported our COVID-19 response, including France, Germany, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States, which have all pledged over a third of the basin of support and 70% of the direct funding to the coronavirus response.

And the best way to do that is to vaccinate some people in all countries, rather than all people in some countries.

We have to do it all.

This is a dangerous moment for many countries in the northern hemisphere as cases spike, but we also have to be thinking about the challenges that others have been disrupted, putting hundreds of millions of people at risk.

But if and when we have an effective vaccine, we must also use it effectively.

And the health effects of the pandemic go far beyond the suffering caused by the virus itself. Vaccination campaigns for tuberculosis, pneumonia and diarrhoea, polio, measles, and many other diseases have been upended by this virus.

We have to move from ad-hoc solutions to long-term planning, to protect lives and livelihoods.

It is not enough to be reactive. We must plan and take action for this pandemic over the long-term. The pandemic has highlighted the neglect of basic health system functions underpinning the foundation of our response today.

WHO’s work has been at the forefront of a global alliance to research and develop safe and effective vaccines, treatments and diagnostics to the world’s most at-risk people in all countries.

The pandemic has highlighted the neglect of basic health system functions underpinning the foundation of our response today. These have been fundamental to how countries and communities are weathering this pandemic.

A strong health system is a resilient health system.

Our WHO teams are now working to help the most vulnerable people in the world一個一個地質疑 any public health system's ability to respond to the virus. This has exposed the limits of our preparedness, and the limits of our ability to respond. We can do better. The pandemic is a demonstration of the importance of investing in health systems, and the importance of acting early and decisively. We can do better.

We have to do it all.

Of course, this virus does not respect borders. It spreads between countries, and the global community needs to act as one.

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The lesson is clear: A strong health system is a resilient health system.

And we have to make sure that these struggles are not just the work of the health sector. We cannot just focus on health systems and other sectors that are crucial to the health and wellbeing of people.

We know that fundamental public health measures work: find, test, isolate, and care for every case, and trace and quarantine every contact.

We know that we can slow the spread of the virus through physical distancing, masks, handwashing, and meeting family and friends outside.

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Many of the world’s wealthiest countries, with some of the most advanced health systems, have been upended by this virus.

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COVID-19 has exposed the weaknesses of many health systems. It has exposed the weaknesses of many health systems. It has exposed the weaknesses of many health systems. It has exposed the weaknesses of many health systems. It has exposed the weaknesses of many health systems.

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COVID-19 is shining a light on the decisions we and our policy-makers have made not only today, but also in the past.

It is not enough to be reactive. We must plan and take action for this pandemic over the long-term. The pandemic has highlighted the neglect of basic health system functions underpinning the foundation of our response today.

The pandemic has highlighted the neglect of basic health system functions underpinning the foundation of our response today. These have been fundamental to how countries and communities are weathering this pandemic.

The lesson is clear: A strong health system is a resilient health system.

I would like to thank the Governments of France and Germany for their generous support of the Our World in Data Project. And I would like to give a special thanks to my close friend, His Excellency Jens Spahn, the Minister of Health of the Federal Republic of Germany, who has been a steadfast supporter of WHO’s work and a champion for multilateral action and support for health.

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WHO Director-General’s opening remarks at the World Health Summit - 25 October 2020