Statement by Jeem Lippwe

Delegation of the Federated States of Micronesia at the 75th World Health Assembly (WHA75) relating to Agenda item 16.3, “WHO’s work in health emergencies”

Mr. Chairman,

As a peaceful Pacific small island developing state , it is heartbreaking to see yet another humanitarian catastrophe unfolding before our eyes. The dire humanitarian situation caused by the Russian Federation deliberate and reprehensible attacks on civilians, hospitals and other healthcare facilities constitute serious violations of international humanitarian law. Micronesia condemns Russia’s aggression against Ukraine and continues to advocate for full compliance with International Humanitarian Law, and urges the Russian Federation to fully respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine and protect the sick, the wounded, women, children and the elderly, all medical personnel, humanitarian aid workers, and healthcare systems consistent with the Geneva Conventions and as called for in draft resolution A75/A/CONF/6.

In light of the unfolding tragedy we are seeing in Ukraine, this World Health Assembly (WHA) has to take its responsibility to address this humanitarian catastrophe, and should consider the application of relevant articles of the WHO Constitution.

Micronesia draws inspiration from the strength and resilience of the Ukrainian people in the face of overwhelming forces, and in solidarity with Ukraine will cosponsor and vote in favor of draft resolution A75/A/CONF/6. We urge the Assembly to come together in unity and solidarity with the Ukrainian people and do so likewise by supporting the aforementioned resolution and to reject draft resolution A75/A/CONF/8.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman