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Agenda item 2

Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

Access to medicines, vaccines and other health products in the context of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

Note by the Secretariat*

1. In its resolution 59/7, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue its work, within its mandate, to provide technical assistance to States throughout the next three years on the human rights dimension of access to medicines and vaccines in the context of the right of everyone to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including with regard to barriers to access for vulnerable segments of the population and for developing countries, in particular least developed States, landlocked States and small island developing States, and with regard to models, mechanisms and arrangements of international and regional cooperation, and to present an analytical study on protection gaps of vulnerable segments of the population to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-second session, with a view to presenting to the Council, at its sixty-eighth session, a comprehensive report, including on the measures necessary to bridge protection gaps to ensure the accessibility and availability of medicines, vaccines and other health products, and to prepare the above submissions in an accessible and easy-to-read format.
2. At the organizational meeting of the Human Rights Council held on 1 June 2026, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights informed the Council that, in the light of the ongoing liquidity crisis faced by the United Nations, the Office would not be able to implement all of its mandates fully and on time.
3. Due to the ongoing liquidity crisis, the Office has not been in a position to prepare the analytical study on protection gaps of vulnerable segments of the population with regard to the accessibility and availability of medicines, vaccines and other health products. The Office will therefore present the study to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-third session.

* The present document was submitted to the conference services for processing after the deadline for technical reasons beyond the control of the submitting office.

