Thank you Madame Chair,
When women’s, children’s, and adolescents’ health is protected, communities and societies thrive. But alcohol harm remains a major obstacle. Analysis shows that alcohol harms maternal and newborn health, jeopardizes SRHR, and fuels mental ill-health. Alcohol is the second leading risk factor for disease in the age group 10 to 24 years. And women bear a disproportionate burden of alcohol harm, often due to second-hand harm, such as violence. But alcohol companies are aggressively targeting children, adolescents, and women with alcohol marketing.
We suggest for WHO and Member States to prioritize three strategic approaches:

1. Conduct an impact assessment – including fetal alcohol spectrum disorder – of alcohol as obstacle to women’s, children’s, and adolescents’ health,
2. Implement alcohol policy solutions to advance the health of women, children, and adolescents, and
3. Protect women, children, and adolescents from alcohol marketing.

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