



Summary of the Global Preparatory Meeting for ECOSOC 2009 Annual Ministerial Review on Global Public Health

31 March 2009

OPENING SESSION

In her opening remarks, **H.E. Mrs. Sylvie Lucas**, President of ECOSOC and Permanent Representative of Luxembourg, briefed delegations on the preparatory process for the 2009 AMR, in particular the E-discussion, the philanthropy event and the AMR regional meeting in Sri Lanka, which had taken place already with great success. On the Global Preparatory Meeting, she pointed out that it was fitting that the Council had chosen to focus on the global financial crisis and health challenges in crisis situations.

Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), in a statement delivered by Mr. Eric Laroche, Assistant Director-General, said that health ministries cannot achieve the health related goals on their own. Policies are required in areas such as education, transport, road development, in order to improve health. Multisectoral approaches are needed to address issues, such as access