22 September 2021, Tehran – World Patient Safety Day 2021 was observed in the Islamic Republic of Iran on 19 September this year during a formal online ceremony organized by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education with the virtual attendance of WHO Representative Dr Syed Jaffar Hussain, ministerial authorities and representatives from universities of medical sciences in different provinces.

The virtual event themed ‘Act Now for Safe and Respectful Childbirth!’ commenced with opening remarks by Dr Hussain underlining the importance of maintaining a quality health system in which health services are effective, safe, people-centred, timely, equitable, integrated, and efficient.

“Quality and safety in primary health care are crucial in achieving the broad public health goals within universal health coverage,” said Dr Hussain. He referred to Islamic Republic of Iran’s health system as one of the most robust globally supported by a strong primary health care programme. “Islamic Republic of Iran is making progress towards achieveent of the Sustainable Development Goals to reduce the maternal mortality ratio by two thirds by 2030,” he added. “Currently, 96.9% of pregnant women are covered under prenatal care and 73.9% under postnatal care.”

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