

**Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly, 19–27 May 2025**  
**WHO headquarters, Geneva**

Constituency Statement

**Agenda Item:**

Pillar 1: One billion more people benefiting from universal health coverage

13.3. Universal health coverage

**International Medical Imaging and Medical Devices Community Support for a WHA Resolution on Strengthening Medical Imaging Capacity**

**The statement is supported by the following Non-State Actors:**

1. World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB)
2. International Society of Radiology (ISR)
3. Global Diagnostic Imaging Healthcare IT and Radiation Therapy Trade Association (DITTA)
4. Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi)
5. International Federation on Ageing (IFA)
6. International Federation of Healthcare Engineering (IFHE)
7. International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE)
8. The International Federation of Surgical Colleges and Societies (IFSCS Ltd)
9. International Organization for Medical Physics (IOMP)
10. International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists (ISRRT)
11. Humatem
12. Multiple Sclerosis International Federation (MSIF)
13. NCD Alliance
14. The International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP)
15. Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF)
16. World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (WFUMB)

Honorable Chair, Distinguished Delegates

Building on the WHA76.5 Resolution on Strengthening Diagnostics Capacity, the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB), the International Society of Radiology (ISR), the Global Diagnostic Imaging Healthcare IT and Radiation Therapy Trade Association (DITTA), Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi), the International Federation on Ageing (IFA), the International Federation of Healthcare Engineering (IFHE), the International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE), The International Federation of Surgical Colleges and Societies (IFSCS Ltd), International Organization for Medical Physics (IOMP), International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists (ISRRT), HUMATEM, Multiple Sclerosis International Federation (MSIF), the NCD Alliance, The International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP), Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF), World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (WFUMB)

fully support the adoption of this resolution to increase equitable and timely access to medical imaging capacity in low—and middle-income countries (LMICs) through a comprehensive health system approach.

Medical imaging is vital for diagnosing numerous communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). While NCDs are rising and disproportionately affecting LMICs, access to medical imaging, including nuclear medicine, in LMICs is severely limited, although imaging technologies are included in the WHO Priority Medical Devices lists.

Medical imaging is also essential for therapy selection. Interventional radiology can minimize invasive treatments, and theranostics are emerging treatments for cancer. Medical imaging is critical to diagnosing stroke, the second leading cause of NCD mortality, cardiovascular diseases, injuries, and pregnancy complications.

The Lancet Oncology Commissions on Medical Imaging and Nuclear Medicine, Cancer in Sub-Saharan Africa, and Radiotherapy and Theranostics demonstrated the health and economic benefits of improving access to medical imaging and nuclear medicine for cancer.

Timely, equitable access to medical imaging, including nuclear medicine, should be an essential component of WHO primary health care (PHC) and universal health coverage.

We call on WHO, closely coordinating with IAEA, and Member States, to develop and implement strategies for introducing and maintaining appropriate imaging equipment, workforce training, radiation safety, and quality assurance systems that complement those for in-vitro diagnostics and to support funding in cooperation with development banks and donors.

The proposed resolution will guide the joint efforts to strengthen medical imaging capacity and access worldwide. The imaging professionals and medical technology community stand ready to support its implementation.

*250 words, 2 min.*