



Statement of the
International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA)
77th Regional Committee for the WHO South East Asia Region

Provisional Agenda Item #9.2
Strengthening health workforce education and training in the Region

Honourable Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,

Health workforce is the cornerstone of resilient health systems and the foundation of this workforce lies in the medical education students receive. Ensuring the quality of this education and training is essential, as it shapes the future of healthcare professionals and the care they provide.

The International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) emphasises the need for national and international quality assurance systems to ensure the quality of medical education in compliance with relevant and stringent global standards. the inclusion of interprofessional education and collaborative practice training. One key aspect of ensuring this quality is the inclusion of interprofessional education and collaborative practice (IPECP) in education and training. IPECP fosters teamwork among healthcare professionals from different disciplines, cultivating a culture of mutual respect, understanding, and trust among healthcare providers, which is fundamental in building a resilient and responsive health workforce. It also plays a critical role in advancing Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by making healthcare services more accessible and responsive to contemporary health challenges.

Moreover, digital health has emerged as a pivotal tool in improving health systems. Ensuring that healthcare professionals are equipped to embrace and utilize digital technologies will be another key aspect of education and training.

Therefore, we call for member states to:

- Provide resources for the continuous enhancement and development of medical curricula per preset quality standards
- Collaborate with relevant stakeholders—such as medical schools, universities, student organizations, and NGOs to develop context-specific health and education policies that guide the integration of IPECP programs and competencies.

- Adequately train healthcare professionals and university educators to ensure they are ready to use and efficiently teach health technologies

In conclusion, we urge the WHO to continue supporting member states and stakeholders by disseminating knowledge, facilitating collaboration, and developing guidelines for health workforce education and training. Together, our collective efforts will contribute to building more resilient health systems.

Thank you for your attention.

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