



**WHO Executive Board 156<sup>th</sup> session**  
February 2025

**Pillar 2: One billion more people better protected from health emergencies**  
**Universal health and preparedness review (item 18)**

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

The World Medical Association emphasises the critical importance of multisectoral collaboration in pandemic preparedness and response, rooted in equity and transparency. Engaging healthcare professionals and their associations ensures inclusive strategies informed by frontline realities.

The Universal Health and Preparedness Review (UHPR) offers a valuable platform to strengthen global health systems and foster resilience. International health organisations, including the WMA, play a pivotal role in peer learning, capacity-building, and sharing best practices to address systemic vulnerabilities. Global solidarity must guide these efforts, prioritising underserved regions where resource-limited countries face significant challenges in achieving International Health Regulations (IHR) core capacities. Equity must remain central to preparedness, avoiding undue burdens on vulnerable populations.

The WMA stands ready to support training, awareness initiatives, and the integration of a One Health approach among health professionals worldwide.

Thank you