



75th World Health Assembly Session
May 2022

Item 16.3 WHO's work in health emergencies

Honorable Chairperson, Distinguished Delegates,

The COVID-19 pandemic had a devastating effect on societies with economic impact that far outweigh any previous outbreaks. The actual global situation faces even more risks of emergencies due to environmental degradation, rapid urbanisation and international travels as well as the climate and geopolitical crisis with waves of migration.

To be better and more equally protected, we need a global coordinated mechanism guaranteeing to all countries resilient health care system offering Universal Health Coverage with tightly integrated primary health care, a strong and supported health workforce as well as harmonised health emergency preparedness and response systems at regional and international level.

The WMA, representing 9 million physicians globally, supports the DG's White Paper on the Global Architecture for Health Emergency Preparedness, Response and Resilience and highlights the importance of strengthening the WHO Health Emergencies Programme and the Contingency Fund for Emergencies, and of boosting sustainable financing for the Programme and WHO's emergency functions more broadly.

No one is safe until all are safe.
