



76th World Health Assembly Session
May 2023

Item 15.3: Global Health for Peace Initiative

Honorable chair, distinguished delegates,

I speak on behalf of the World Medical Association (WMA) representing over 9 million doctors worldwide.

While we value the health impetus in promoting peace and social inclusion, we emphasize that health care must be provided for the only benefit of patients. Health must never be reliant on or determined by peace or any other purposes. This is essential to guarantee medical neutrality and the safety of health personnel.

Despite some clarifications in the latest version of the roadmap, the GHPI still fails to provide an explicit mechanism to ensure respect for medical ethics, human rights and humanitarian international standards. The national authorities responsible for the implementation of the initiative must be made accountable for their decisions. This is particularly important in “fragile, conflict-affected and vulnerable contexts” with potential political instability.

Thank you