WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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77th World Health Assembly Session May 2024

Item 15.1: Social Determinant of Health (SDH)

Honorable chair, distinguished delegates,

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

The WMA considers that neglecting to address the social determinants of health perpetuates health inequities and hinders overall progress in health outcomes.

Understanding the intricate interplay between societal factors and individual well-being, we call upon:

- Member-states to implement the WHO operational framework for monitoring social determinants of health using a multisectoral approach, including physicians, to establish sustainable and resilient UHC systems;
- WHO to provide technical support and guidance for countries to design and implement national strategies, ensuring equitable access to essential health services and health promotion initiatives, thus promoting health across all sectors of society.

Thank you.
