



H.E. the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
H.E. the Minister of Health and Family Welfare
c/o Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations Office
and Other International Organizations in Geneva
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30 September 2026

Subject: Urgent call to end violence against health care in Bangladesh

Your Excellencies,

I am writing to you on behalf of the World Medical Association (WMA), the global federation of National Medical Associations representing millions of physicians worldwide, acting for the advancement of good practice, medical ethics and medical accountability internationally.

We have been made aware of the alarming levels of violence against physicians, other healthcare personnel and facilities in Bangladesh. Recent reports reaching us suggest that these are not isolated incidents, but rather part of a broader and deeply worrying pattern. Healthcare personnel across the country have reportedly been subjected to physical assaults and threats, while emergency departments and other healthcare facilities have been vandalized. Many of these attacks are reportedly perpetrated by patients' relatives, often following the death of a patient. Studies conducted in Bangladesh indicate that a significant proportion of healthcare personnel have experienced or witnessed violence in their workplace.

The WMA has long condemned, in the strongest possible terms, all forms of violence against healthcare personnel and facilities. Such violence has grave and far-reaching consequences, not only for those who suffer injury or psychological trauma, but also for the quality, continuity and accessibility of patient care. It undermines public trust in the health system and places further strain on an already overstretched healthcare sector.

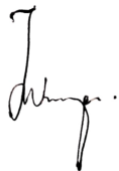
As set out in the [WMA Statement on Workplace Violence in the Health Sector](#) and the [WMA Declaration on the Protection and Integrity of Medical Personnel in Armed Conflicts and Other Situations of Violence](#), States have a responsibility to ensure the safety and security of patients, physicians and other healthcare personnel at all times.

We urge the Government of Bangladesh to:

- Adopt effective measures to protect healthcare personnel and facilities from violence.
- Ensure that all attacks are promptly investigated and perpetrators held accountable.
- Strengthen the prevention, reporting and monitoring of violence in healthcare settings.
- Address the underlying causes of violence against healthcare personnel, including systemic challenges within the health sector.

We respectfully urge your Government to take these measures as a matter of priority, in consultation with the medical profession and other relevant stakeholders, as part of a joint effort to ensure a safe working environment for all healthcare personnel in Bangladesh.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Kitulu'.

Dr. Jacqueline Kitulu,
President of the World Medical Association