

Pillar 4: More effective and efficient WHO providing better support to countries
Item 24.3: Global strategies and plans of action that are scheduled to expire within one year (Global action plan on the public health response to dementia 2017–2025)

Singapore's Written Statement

Singapore appreciates the opportunity to contribute towards discussions on the public health response to dementia. The Director-General has acknowledged the challenges in achieving the global targets for 2025, given resource limitations and competing priorities. In Singapore, a modest decline in dementia prevalence among adults aged 60 and above has been observed, from 10% in 2013 to 8.8% in 2023. Recognising the uniqueness of every context, we humbly share insights that may inform global efforts to address dementia:

- i. First, increased engagement of older adults: Higher employment rates and educational attainment among older adults have supported cognitive health by fostering mental activity and social engagement.
 - ii. Second, stroke prevention: A decline in stroke, a known risk factor for dementia, driven by preventive measures and improved management of cardiovascular risks, has contributed to reduced dementia prevalence.
- 2 With evidence suggesting up to 45% of dementia cases can be prevented by addressing 14 modifiable risk factors across the life course, upstream interventions, such as public education and early health promotion targeting younger populations, are vital.
- 3 To sustain progress and strengthen global efforts, we support the following proposals:
- i. Extension of the global action plan beyond 2025 to 2031, aligning with the timeline of the Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders 2022–2031.
 - ii. The submission of progress reports to the Health Assembly in 2027 and 2029, integrated within the WHO Global Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013–2030.
- 4 By taking these steps, we can build on the momentum achieved thus far, foster greater collaboration, and strengthen global commitment to addressing dementia as a public health priority.