Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly
Committee B (Item transferred from Committee A)
Agenda item 15 Human resources for health (Documents A75/12, A75/13, A75/14 & A75/15)

Statement by International Labour Organization (ILO)

The ILO welcomes the updated Working for Health: draft 2022-2030 action plan which builds upon and ensures alignment with the ILO-OECD-WHO Working for Health five-year action plan for health employment and inclusive economic growth (2017-2021). It allows for accelerating investments in all aspects that contribute to strengthening the health workforce.

The ILO firmly believes in the unique impact of joint, international and multisectoral cooperation and coordination to address health workforce challenges and we remain committed to drive forward a health and care workforce agenda that is aligned with the SDGs, the goal of Universal Health Coverage, the Global Call to Action for a human-centred recovery from the COVID-19 crisis that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient and the commitments of the High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth.

More sustainable investments in employment opportunities in the health sector are required accompanied by measures to provide decent conditions of work to ensure resilient health systems, adequate preparedness and response to public health crises and equality in access to health services.

The recovery phase of the COVID-19 pandemic must be driven by a human-centred approach that respects human and labour rights, while supporting economic and social recovery. The right to safe and healthy working conditions is fundamental to decent work and hence, the effective protection of health workers must remain a priority, including extending social protection to all health workers wherever they work. Solid and sustainable solutions are best achieved through dialogue with workers and employers and all relevant stakeholders.

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