



Statement of Ireland

78th World Health Assembly

Item 13.7

Health and care workforce

May 2025

Chair,

Distinguished Colleagues,

Ireland aligns with the statement delivered by Poland on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.

We will be faced with an estimated global shortage of more than 11 million health workers by 2030.

Despite the increase in the total number of health and care workers, many countries continue to experience critical national shortages, uneven distribution, migration-related attrition, and high turnover rates, especially in rural, underserved, or crisis-affected settings.

Ensuring a sufficient, competent, and motivated health and care workforce is essential for achieving universal health coverage, advancing primary healthcare, and strengthening health security.

To attain this, sustained and strategic investments in education, lifelong learning, fair remuneration, and safe working conditions are necessary to protect, support, and retain health and care workers, while ensuring their well-being, security, and career development.

The “Global Strategy on Human Resources for Health: Workforce 2030” and the “WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel” provide strategic frameworks and outline several actions to progressively optimise, build, and strengthen the health and care workforce needed to deliver UHC and guarantee global health security.

Ireland thanks the WHO and our fellow Member States for their work in the development of these vital resources.

Finally, Finally, Ireland wishes to announce our co-sponsorship of the resolution entitled Accelerating action on the global health and care workforce by 2030

Thank you