



78th SESSION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

NATIONAL STATEMENT

19 -27 MAY 2025

Item 18.3: Climate Change and Health

Chairperson,

1. South Africa aligns with the Statement delivered by Mozambique on behalf of the Africa Region.
2. We welcome and support the adoption of the *Global Action Plan on Climate Change and Health (2025–2028)*, and recognise the profound threats climate change poses to our populations.
3. We emphasise, in line with the UNFCCC, the centrality of equity and climate justice in our efforts, ensuring support and directing resources to vulnerable developing nations, and acknowledging historical responsibility. Adequate and predictable financing is crucial, with developed nations honouring climate finance commitments important for adaptation.
4. Strengthening health system resilience is key, requiring investment in primary healthcare, early warning systems, and integrating climate considerations into national health policies. We also call for targeted interventions against climate-sensitive diseases and enhanced capacity building and technology transfer.
5. Finally, intersectoral collaboration across government and civil society, alongside community engagement and the integration of traditional knowledge, is vital for effective solutions. South Africa is ready to contribute to a robust and actionable

plan, believing that strong political will and equitable partnerships can build healthier, more resilient communities.

6. South Africa is committed to submitting implementation progress reports to the Eightieth (80th) World Health Assembly in 2027 and the Eighty-Second (82nd) World Health Assembly in 2029.

I thank you