

18.3: Climate Change and Health
UK Written Statement

The UK thanks the WHO warmly for their work in developing the Global Action Plan. We support its adoption, and welcome the focus on systems strengthening, multi-sector action, evidence and advocacy, and the commitment to integrate climate change considerations across WHO's work.

We strongly support the Plan's alignment with the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. However, the UK would like to disassociate with paragraph 1 of the Guiding Frameworks and Principles on page 3 of the action plan. The UK is fully committed to the Paris Agreement and multilateral action via the UNFCCC process to tackle the urgency of the climate crisis. The joint work of countries committed to development and tackling climate change across all multilateral fora has never been more important. We do not consider Article 2, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement, which covers the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances, to be applicable to the Draft Global Action Plan on Climate Change and Health or the work of the World Health Organisation. We consider the reference to this principle as relevant and applicable to action under the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement only.

Once again, the UK thanks the WHO for their work and reiterates our support for adoption of the Global Action Plan.