



Statement of Ireland

79th World Health Assembly Item 14.4

Implementation of Resolution WHA75.11 (2022)

20 May 2026

Chair,

Director General,

Excellencies,

Colleagues,

Ireland aligns with the statement delivered by Cyrus on behalf of the EU and its 27 Member States.

We are now in the fifth year of Russia's illegal and unprovoked full-scale invasion of Ukraine, and Ireland remains unequivocal in our support and solidarity with Ukraine.

Ireland commends the WHO for its unwavering commitment and exceptional leadership in responding to and coordinating health responses in complex humanitarian situations.

We are deeply concerned by the attacks on healthcare facilities and health workers, which directly impact people's ability to access essential services. In particular, we note how the vulnerabilities of women and girls are being exasperated as humanitarian needs continue to rise.

We applaud the efforts of the WHO in maintaining and strengthening the health system in Ukraine under extremely challenging circumstances and despite the increase of verified attacks on healthcare facilities in 2025. Their work in ensuring the delivery of essential medical supplies and equipment, and facilitating medical evacuations, has been instrumental in preserving health and care services for those affected by the unjustified war. We reaffirm our respect and admiration for the people of Ukraine amidst this brutal Russian aggression.

They are a brave and resilient people who have won the admiration of millions of people in Ireland, Europe, and far beyond.

Ireland has contributed extensive political, humanitarian, non-lethal military, and economic support to Ukraine since February 2022 and has welcomed over 120,000 Ukrainians under the EU Temporary Protection Directive, of which some 840,000 are estimated to remain in Ireland the State. We therefore look forward to the outcome of today's discussion.

Thank you