



SAMOA STATEMENT DELIVERED BY HON. MINISTER OF HEALTH AT THE 79TH WHA PLENARY SESSION 2026

Esteemed President,
Director-General,
Excellencies, honourable ministers and distinguished delegates

Talofa lava and warm greetings from Samoa.

Samoa aligns itself with the statement delivered by Kiribati on behalf of the Pacific Island Countries and Areas.

We welcome the theme of this Assembly, “Reshaping Global Health: A Shared Responsibility,” which strongly reflects the spirit of the newly endorsed Healthy Islands Vision 2050, and our shared commitment to the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.

For small island developing states like Samoa, reshaping global health means strengthening resilient, people-centred health systems, that can respond to climate change, NCDs, and emerging health threats. These challenges continue to place increasing pressure on our communities, particularly those in remote and vulnerable areas.

Samoa remains committed to strengthening primary health care, advancing immunization, addressing the burden of NCDs, and ensuring equitable access to essential health services, so that no one is left behind.



As reflected in the Pacific concept of Te Wa in Kiribati or Paopao in Samoa, our traditional canoe, our collective strength depends on trust, solidarity, and shared responsibility. No country can navigate these challenges alone.

We therefore call for sustained global partnership and investment in climate and health financing, workforce development, and access to medicines and health technologies.

Together, let us reshape global health so every island, every community, and every person can thrive with dignity and resilience.

Fa'afetai tele lava.