



World Health Profession Alliance WHPA

Sixty-eight World Health Assembly

Agenda item 11.2, Framework of engagement with non-State actors

Honourable Members of the World Health Assembly,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the World Medical Association, the International Council of Nurses, the International Pharmaceutical Federation, the World Dental Federation and the World Confederation for Physical Therapy, which together form the World Health Professions Alliance.

We welcome the efforts made to improve the structure and readability of the framework and to properly define terms used, as well as a better description on how WHO will manage conflicts of interest and definition of its due diligence processes.

We find the proposals of the Chairperson to be generally the most acceptable proposals. However, we would favour a unified approach applicable to all non-state actors (NSA) and therefore still question the relevance of setting categories of NSAs.

Indeed, it is important not only to consider the potential conflict of interest based on the NSAs itself but also the ones coming from each individual member of a NSAs delegation or experts appointed/suggested by a NSAs.

In addition, we call for details on the process and timetable for the full implementation of this framework, so that all NSAs can take appropriate measures to be ready with the new requirements. Indeed, some processes described in this framework have started to be implemented. Most (if not all) NSAs in official relations with WHO have been invited to disclose their profile, containing information on governance, financing and membership, as well as activities related to WHO's programme of work. A summary of your analysis (through a report for instance) would help to increase transparency and strengthen confidence in the process.

We are eager to share our expertise and technical assistance to advance public health through our interaction with WHO. We are confident that this process will enable a stronger collaboration based on trust with the health professional associations represented through the World Health Professions Alliance.