Agenda Item 7.2 - Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Honourable Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,

The International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations would like to welcome the report of the Secretariat on Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and applaud such overview made.

The overall process that has led the United Nations General Assembly to adopt the Agenda for Sustainable Development has been truly remarkable. It has been considered as one of the biggest consultations that has happened in modern development, not only of government representatives, but also the civil society. As it is a plan made for the well-being of everyone worldwide, we underline the necessity to indeed leave no one behind while planning the implementation of the adopted goals, by a great involvement of civil society, communities everywhere.

There has been a fear of the health community, that ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages, has been left only as one of the seventeen. However, taking into account the interactive nature of SDGs between each other, we would like to emphasize the mindset of putting health as a crucial part for the success of the Agenda and call for governments to promote health in all policies when tailoring the national policy and implementation of the SDGs.

UHC must be achieved in order to reduce the health risk factors, such as mortality from communicable and non-communicable diseases, maternal health complications among many other. We must not forget that in order to ensure equal access to quality healthcare, we need to strengthen the health workforce, improve the education and working conditions. Healthcare workers are the key to prevention, as well as health literacy and patient empowerment.

IFMSA is committed to the implementation of the Agenda for Sustainable Development and we call for a stronger collaboration between all the stakeholders in order to reach the Goals successfully.