Statement of the
International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA)
70th World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization
Agenda Item 12.2 Antimicrobial Resistance

Honourable chair,
Distinguished delegates,

The International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations, supported by the World Health Students’ Alliance, applauds the efforts of the World Health Organization in tackling the issue of Antimicrobial Resistance, and congratulates you on the progress achieved in this field. The World Health Students’ Alliance, the largest interprofessional healthcare alliance between medical, dental, veterinary and pharmaceutical students, was established to bring together all healthcare students to share their experiences and to better address health challenges faced in society today. Antimicrobial Resistance, occurring everywhere in the world, stands as one of those major issues we face today. AMR is a global issue that requires multisectoral collaboration between multiple stakeholders to face all the different factors contributing to its existence.

Public education contributes to preventing misuse of antibiotics. Nevertheless, educating healthcare providers on appropriate antimicrobial use is key in reducing resistance. The World Health Students’ Alliance has been taking an active role in promoting the awareness about AMR in the world. Representing more than two million health students in the world, we have been acting against Antimicrobial Resistance through joining efforts and collaborating on local, regional and international awareness campaigns through the past years. We acknowledge the tremendous efforts of the World Health Organization in spreading awareness about AMR. While we highly appreciate attending several expert meetings in the WHO and the UN High Level Meeting on AMR last year, we still call for further collaborations between the future generation of healthcare providers and multiple stakeholders in the fight against AMR. We strongly emphasize the importance of providing opportunities for involvement of NGOs and youth in this process.

Thank you for your attention.